FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 070 *10 April 1984*

ARGENTINA

Caputo, Grinspun Comment on Talks in U.S. B 1
Great Britain Reply on Falklands Delivered B 3
Kelly Confirms Receipt B 3
Senator, Official on Content B 3
More on Senator's Remarks B 4
Caputo Rules Out Contacts B 4

BOLIVIA

Swearing-In of New Ministerial Cabinet Expected C 1
Installation Postponed C 2
COB Leader Lechin Oquendo Returns to La Paz C 2

BRAZIL

Agriculture Minister Charges Exports Subsidized [O GLOBO 5 Apr] D 1
Exports to U.S. Up 44 Percent in January [O GLOBO 4 Apr] D 1

CHILE

Interior Minister on Departure of 'Terrorists' E 1
MDP Reports on Insunza 'Kidnapping,' Expulsion E 1
U.S. Statement on Political Dialogue Criticized E 1
[EL MERCURIO 31 Mar]
Socialist Democratic Federation Created E 2
Socialist Party Lawyers Attack AD President E 3
CNI Barracks Bombed; No Casualties Reported E 3
MDP Leader Insunza Interviewed on Politics E 4
[EL MERCURIO 1 Apr]
Creation of New Labor Movement Approved E 9

ECUADOR

Chilean Refugees Arrive, Granted Temporary Asylum G 1
Briefs: Improved Refinancing Terms G 1

PERU

Prime Minister Schwalb Denies Cabinet Reshuffle J 1
Resigns Over Economic Policy J 1
UN Secretary General Criticizes Reagan Remarks J 1
Attorney General Condemns Doctors Strike J 1
Strike Enters 6th Day J 2
Government Attempts To Prevent Transport Strike J 2
Twenty Reported Killed in Military Action J 2
Briefs: PRC Ambassador Dies J 2

URUGUAY

Navy Officers Want 'Prompt Institutionalization' K 1
Military Plans To Arrest Aldunate Denied K 1
Briefs: New Colorado Party Faction K 1

PANAMA

Noriega on Military Role in Civic Action N 1
Arias Comments on Debt, Military, C. America N 2
[QUIUBO GRAFICO 7-14 Apr]
Student Group Denounces Military Interference [LA PRENSA 3 Apr] N 3
Briefs: New Nicarguan, Polish Ambassadors; New Publication N 3

CENTRAL AMERICA

Panamanian Officals Discuss Contadora Meetings P 1
Panama's Ortega on U.S., Cuban Role in Contadora P 1

COSTA RICA

Foreign Minister Comments on Honduran Events P 2
Explosives, Other Materials Seized in Siquirres P 3

EL SALVADOR

D'Aubuisson Makes Statement on Agriculture P 4
Military Operations in San Miguel, San Sebastian P 5
Fighting in San Miguel P 5
Results of San Sebastian Clash P 5
FDR's Ungo Discusses Honduras, Election P 6
[Managua BARRICADA 3 Apr]

GUATEMALA

Mejia in U.S.; Lobos Zamora Acting Head of State P 6
French Embassy Asylum Procedure Questioned P 7
[PRENSA LIBRE 5 Apr]

HONDURAS

Workers Demonstrate Against Alvarez Martinez P 8

NICARAGUA

U.S. To Be Charged Before International Court P 8
Envoy to The Hague Comments P 9
U.S. Senate Said To Have 'Openly Declared War' P 9
U.S. Said To Admit Responsibility for Mines P 10
Nunez Says U.S. Behind Election Boycott Campaign P 10
D'Escoto To Meet U.S., UN Officials During Visit P 11
Daniel Ortega Answers Costa Rican's Letter P 11
Further on Letter P 12
Canada's MacEachen Arrives for 3-Day Visit P 12
Canada 'Concerned' Over Mining P 12
Humberto Ortega Stresses Strong Ties With DPRK P 13
Tinoco Says Early Contadora Meeting Sought P 13
[Panama City LA PRENSA 4 Apr]

Sergio Ramirez on Intervention, Opposition P 14
Borge Meets With UN Officials on Refugees P 14
MAP Leader Tellez Arrested in Switzerland P 14
Fidel Castro Comments on French Television Cited P 15
Government Report Details Economic Problems P 15
'Rescue Group' Member Returns To Meet Opposition P 16
New Alliance Forms After 'Rescue Group' Disbands P 17
Journalists Discuss Resuming Suspended Newscasts P 18
LA PRENSA Not Published due to Censorship P 20
FDN's Calero Denies U.S. Role in Mining Ports P 20
ARDE Warns Against Using French Military in C.A. P 20
ARDE Reports Robelo, Castillo Touring Europe P 21
[Voice of Sandino]
Voice of Sandino Announces New ARDE Radio P 21
Briefs: New Australian Ambassador P 21

CUBA

CEMA Official on Expanding Relations With L.A. Q 1
Poland's Orzechowski, Delegation Arrive [Warsaw] Q 1
Media Official Seeks More In-Depth Critiques [Mexico City EL DIA 31 Mar] Q 1
Guardsmen Urged To Surrender in Cameroon Q 2
Guatemalan Army Threatens Refugees in Mexico Q 2
U.S. Vetoes UN Resolution Proposed by Nicaragua Q 4
Nicaraguan Envoy on Vote Q 4
Reportage on Mining Operation in Nicaragua Q 4
France Willing To Remove Mines Q 4
U.S. Opposes Offer Q 5
TIMES Alleges Reagan Approval Q 5
Ortega Condemns Mining Q 6
Nation Faces 'Greatest' Offensive Q 6
Borge: U.S. Waging Open War Q 7
Socialist International Cited Q 7
Mining Condemned Q 8
UN Envoys Cited Q 8
Nicaragua Reacts to Shlaudeman Visit Q 8
Journalists 'Hound' Shlaudeman Q 8
U.S. Policy Said Unchanged Q 9
Nicaragua Replies to Letter From Costa Rica Q 9
Nicaraguan Defense Minister Visits DPRK Q 10
Salvadoran Archbishop Cited on Death Squads Q 10
Salvadoran Battalions Deployed to Ciudad Barrios Q 10
Mexican President Makes Short Visit to Panama Q 10

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

President, Retinue Leave for U.S. Visit R 1
PQD Wants To Participate in 1986 Elections R 1
FIAP Protests Radio Station Closure to President R 1
[LISTIN DIARIO 1 Apr]

CARIBBEAN

JAMAICA

Government Announces Interim Tax Package S 1
PNP Attacks Tax Package S 3

GUYANA

Burnham Accuses U.S. of Financial Squeeze T 1
Oil Exploration Agreement Signed With UK Firm T 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

MEXICO

Local Director of Soviet Press Agency Cited V 1
[EL SOL DE MEXICO 31 Mar]

VENEZUELA

Morales: Contadora Seeking 'Direct Contact' V 1

CAPUTO, GRINSPUN COMMENT ON TALKS IN U.S.

PY100345 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Apr 84

[Interview with Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun by Roberto Amidana in New York; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Amidana] Mr Foreign Minister, before any specific question, how would you describe your mission in the United States?

[Caputo] Simply by saying that after the political change that occurred in our country, we believed that it would be good for both Argentina and the United States to make a general review of our relations, with the main objective of informing the U.S. Government about the objectives of the internal and external policies of the Argentine democratic Government. Therefore, we will be making an overall review of all bilateral issues.

[Amidana] Would you say that, in principle, there is a favorable environment for your mission? We know, however, that the actual environment will depend on the atmosphere prevailing at each of the meetings you will have to attend.

[Caputo] I believe the environment is increasingly favorable to Argentina, as is reflected by concrete actions in recent months. I believe that the visit by Vice President Bush to Buenos Aires, and his conversation with our president; the recent statement by the U.S. Congress supporting Argentine democracy; the suggestion that the U.S. Congress engineered for President Reagan to help solve Argentina's economic problems; the solidaristic action by Latin American nations last week, in which the U.S. Government also participated, and which allowed us to comply with the 31 March deadline; and the conversation that President Reagan and President Alfonsin had a few days ago are clear indications that the dialogue is becoming increasingly strong and that bilateral relations can be expected to be positive in the future. I believe that the two countries must try to engage in a serious, predictable, and lasting dialogue dealing with the essential aspects of bilateral issues. We believe that neither the agreements of limited scope nor erratic relations have favored Argentine-U.S. ties. After the anarchy that has prevailed in U.S.-Argentine relations, we would like to begin working on the basis of a predictable future for our bilateral relations.

[Amidana] Excuse me, Foreign Minister, you mentioned the 31st of March and the truly unique agreement that was reached on that date. We would now like to ask the economy minister the same question. What is the main objective of your mission in the United States, Minister Grinspun?

[Grinspun] Well, actually, I am here to attend a meeting of the interim committee for the reform of the international monetary system which will be held in Washington. I will take advantage of my stay in New York to engage in some talks in connection with the problems affecting the Argentine external sector.

[Amidana] Will the foreign debt, an issue over which we Argentines are so concerned, be given particular attention?

[Grinspun] Look, I would say we are discussing this problem every day, either here, in Buenos Aires, or in other capitals where Argentine creditors negotiate with Argentine officials who represent our interests. I will obviously discuss this issue during my stay here.

[Amidana] Will there be a task or meeting to be jointly undertaken or attended by you and Minister Caputo?

[Grinspun] No, we are in close contact but each one of us deals with his own area. We coordinate our actions, but we have our specific duties.

[Amidana] Minister Caputo, before leaving at Ezeiza Airport you recalled, and the president himself said it, that this approach to Argentine-U.S. relations and the consideration of broader issues like the foreign debt, which also concerns other nations, are not undertaken against, but with, the United States.

[Caputo] Right. Look, I believe that the problem involving Latin American solidaristic actions is that they are often considered an attempt to create an anti-U.S. front. This has several times given rise to distortions and problems at the hemispheric level. The president has rightly put it: Latin Americans have performed a solidaristic gesture that was not against the United States but with the United States. It was actually a hemispheric, or continental, solidaristic process. It is also very important that Argentina and the United States should take into account this event when making an overall evaluation of political relations.

[Amidana] Would you attach particular significance to any of the many interviews which we mentioned at the beginning, either with persons or institutions?

[Caputo] Look, obviously, the most important interview that I will hold will be the one with my U.S. counterpart, George Shultz. I will also hold a meeting with Mr Motley, and a long meeting with Department of State officials. In sum, it will be a week that, as you can see, will be very busy because I will meet not only with executive branch officials but also with members of the Senate and the House, opposition sectors, and a group of representatives of U.S. sectors like businessmen, intellectuals, and so forth.

[Amidana] Mr Grinspun, concerning the foreign debt stage coming after 31 March. It makes no difference whether we are here or in Argentina. How is it going? Will we meet our obligations on time?

[Grinspun] Well, we think we will. We are negotiating at quite an accelerated rate. I would say that we are complying normally with the terms of a timetable, and when I say normally I do not mean there will be no problems or specific situations. However, we will meet our obligations normally. Since December, when this government took over, we have said that Argentina would need some time, until mid-1984, to solve the problems of its external sector, and this timetable is being met. But, I repeat, there can be alternatives and different situations, but just that.

[Amidana] Anything else you would like to add, sir?

[Grinspun] No, we are confident that we will gradually solve all these problems that affect our country and, I reiterate, we will do so in keeping with a timetable that we have drawn up, and that is being met.

[Amidana] Thank you, Dr Grinspun. The same question to you, Minister Caputo

[Caputo] Nothing else. Simply that I hope that we may continue to keep in touch in order to report the results of our negotiations, so that our public may be properly informed.

[Amidana] Thank you very much.

GREAT BRITAIN REPLY ON FALKLANDS DELIVERED

Kelly Confirms Receipt

PY091521 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1441 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Apr (NA) -- Elsa Kelly, secretary for International Relations and Worship of the Argentine Foreign Ministry, today confirmed that Great Britain has answered the Argentine proposal of 16 February on the Malvinas issue. Mrs Kelly indicated that "the president is now studying the matter." Kelly made these remarks after she held a meeting with President Alfonsin which is believed to have dealt exclusively with the Malvinas issue.

Mrs Kelly is the first Argentine official to confirm the fact that the British answer has been received. Kelly refrained from discussing the contents of the document and said that "since the answer is in the hands of the president" she can make no comment.

Senator, Official on Content

PY092245 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2145 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Apr (NA) -- In reply to a proposal made by the Argentine Government last February on resuming direct, comprehensive talks to resolve the conflict over the South Atlantic archipelago, Great Britain has reportedly insisted on reestablishing diplomatic and commercial relations but postponing any negotiation on the Malvinas sovereignty issue. This disclosure was made this afternoon by Radical Senator Adolfo Gass in a statement he made shortly before leaving for the PRC with roving Ambassador Hipolito Solari Yrigoyen.

Gass, who is chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, reported that this morning he had talked with President Raul Alfonsin on the British proposal, but made it clear that he did not have direct access to the document. Gass said: "I have the impression that the British Government wants to insist on resuming diplomatic and commercial relations and that it wants to leave the discussion of issues in which we are so deeply interested for a later time."

"If we are not going to discuss sovereignty, it would be pointless to discuss any other issue," he said.

Yet, a high-ranking source from Government House has said that the British note, which was delivered to the Argentine Government last weekend and which is being studied by President Alfonsin, contains "some positive elements." The source declined to specify these points, but admitted that one of them would be the British decision to immediately lift the exclusion zone it has unilaterally established around the Malvinas Islands.

More on Senator's Remarks

PY100220 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0138 GMT 10 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 9 Apr (TELAM) -- Adolfo Gass, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, revealed here today that in its reply to the Argentine proposal on the Malvinas, Great Britain has insisted on attempting to resume diplomatic and commercial relations but leaving the discussion of issues which are of interest to us for a later time. He made his remarks shortly before leaving for the PRC taking part in a Radical Civic Union [UCR] delegation which will brief the PRC Government on the Argentine situation.

Asked whether President Alfonsin was optimistic about a possible solution to this conflict with the United Kingdom over the occupied islands, Gass said: Yes, because the president is always optimistic.

The following officials also left for the PRC: roving Ambassador Hipolito Solari Yrigoyen, presidential adviser Miguel Angel Martinez, Senator Antonio Napoli, Deputy Federico Storani, and UCR youth leader Marcelo Marco.

Caputo Rules Out Contacts

PY100310 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0158 GMT 9 Apr 84

[By special correspondent Oscar Martinez Zemborain]

[Excerpts] New York, 9 Apr (TELAM) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo today flatly ruled out the possibility of contacting, either here or in Washington, British diplomatic representatives on the Malvinas issue. Although he declined to reveal the content of the reply Great Britain sent to Buenos Aires last Friday, Caputo admitted that this note will be discussed at the meeting he will hold tomorrow at the United Nations with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Asked about reports circulating in New York that the British reply received in Buenos Aires last Friday includes a proposal for the lifting of the exclusion zone established by London around the Malvinas Islands, he said he would not comment.

Caputo was also reminded about the speech he delivered earlier today before the Latin American Regional Group where he said that the Argentine Government expected to be able to sit at a negotiating table with Great Britain, which will thus be complying with UN Resolutions No 37/9 and 38/12. Asked whether these remarks were related to the Foreign Office's reply, which has not yet been disclosed in Buenos Aires, Caputo said: "What I said in that speech reflects a position which has been invariably maintained by the Radical Civic Union and the Argentine Government on this subject and should not necessarily be related to the British reply."

Caputo persistently declined to reveal the content of the British reply but admitted that he will discuss it at the meeting he will hold tomorrow with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Caputo also flatly denied that contacts between Argentine and British diplomats might take place here or in Washington.

SWEARING-IN OF NEW MINISTERIAL CABINET EXPECTED

PY100232 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2230 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] La Paz, 9 Apr (TELAM) -- The appointment of the new Bolivian ministerial cabinet is expected tonight. With his new cabinet, President Siles Zuazo believes he will set in motion his new emergency economic program intended to curb inflation and bring about greater economic and social stability.

The new cabinet should have been sworn in at noon, but problems came up about the economic measures to be adopted and about the appointment of some independents demanded by President Siles Zuazo but rejected by the Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MIR) of Jaime Paz Zamora which is returning to the government.

Siles Zuazo wants to give the Finance Ministry to the independent Falvio Machicado, who had held the post from January through August 1983. At the same time, a package of economic measures is still being discussed, including a 250-percent devaluation, removal of food and fuel subsidies, and moderate salary readjustments. These measures will cause a reduction in real salaries. Despite the fact that these measures will be necessary to cope with the crisis of the Bolivian balance of payments, no political party is willing to support them amidst the recessionary economic situation and its social consequences. This is giving rise to rumors throughout this city to the effect that either presidential plans or the makeup of the new cabinet will have to be changed. Government spokesmen, however, have dismissed those rumors and affirmed that the new cabinet will be sworn in tonight.

If the swearing-in takes place as now planned, the government will be formed by the three parties which make up the Popular and Democratic Unity (UDP): the Revolutionary Nationalist Movement of the Left (MNRI) of Siles Zuazo, the Revolutionary Movement of the Left, and the Pro-Moscow Bolivian Communist Party. The Christian Democratic Party will also participate as an ally.

The information which transpired regarding the economic measures caused labor unions to declare themselves in a state of emergency, although they warned procoup sectors that the ouster of the constitutional government which took over in October 1982 will not be tolerated.

Should the program sponsored by Quemado Palace follow its course, the Planning Ministry will be filled by Ernesto Aranibar, the Education Ministry will go to Susana Seleme, the Urban Affairs and Housing Ministry will be occupied by Pedro Moriogo, and Miguel Urioste will be appointed secretary general to the presidency.

With the political support which the reunification of the coalition that won the 1980 elections represents, Siles Zuazo will try to renegotiate the terms of a stand-by credit with the IMF and to boost productive activities.

Installation Postponed

PY100430 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0156 GMT 10 Apr 84

[Text] La Paz, 9 Apr (EFE) -- The installation of a new Bolivian cabinet was postponed today by President Hernan Siles Zuazo due to last-minute problems among the member parties of the ruling coalition, sources from Government Palace have said.

Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata today said that "minor details" prevented the holding of the installation ceremony, which was scheduled for today.

Information Minister Mario Rueda declined to comment on the subject, but noted that decisions about the appointment and installation of a new cabinet are made by President Siles Zuazo.

National and foreign newsmen today waited for several hours at Government Palace for the announced cabinet installation, but finally presidential secretary Benjamin Miguel told them that "it had been postponed until Tuesday."

It has been learned that the last-minute problems and disagreements are related to Siles Zuazo's objection to the list of ministers proposed by the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) for the Ministries of Planning, Education, Housing and Urban Affairs, and secretary general of the presidency. Another problem is the position taken by the MIR, which is led by Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora, regarding the immediate promulgation of a package of drastic economic measures drafted by the outgoing cabinet. The MIR proposed to the national executive committee of the Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP), which is currently ruling the country, that these measures must be carefully evaluated and that the new "economic package" should not be promulgated until next weekend.

The MIR emphasized its virtual disagreement with some of the presidential economic decisions announced in a speech Siles Zuazo delivered to the nation last Friday, especially those related to salaries and to the lifting of food and fuel subsidies.

Last week Siles Zuazo decided to allow the MIR to return to the government and accepted a number of conditions which had been imposed by the main MIR leaders. The MIR was separated from the government in January 1983.

COB LEADER LECHIN OQUENDO RETURNS TO LA PAZ

PY082009 Paris AFP in Spanish 0106 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Excerpt] La Paz, 7 Apr (AFP) — It was reported here today that COB [Bolivian Labor Federation] Leader Juan Lechin Oquendo today returned to Bolivia after undergoing medical treatment in France and the United States. Lechin's arrival comes at a crucial moment in the country's agitated political and economic situation, in which the COB has considerable influence.

Lechin left La Paz in mid-March to undergo medical treatment for a serious lung disease that had forced him to stay in bed and had compelled him to abandon his union activities while his country was facing a dramatic crisis. The COB is in a state of emergency in the wake of destabilizing plans and after the approval of unpopular economic measures.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER CHARGES EXPORTS SUBSIDIZED

PY092324 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Apr 84 p 19

[Text] The United States not only finances its soybean exports but grants special terms to its purchasers, and Western Europe also stimulates its sales of agricultural products through foreign exchange facilities. These charges were made yesterday by Agriculture Minister Nestor Jost at the opening of the 60th International Congress of Grain Millers in the National Hotel. The minister affirmed that the Brazilian Government will no longer stay on the defensive when faced with charges that it grants subsidies.

The president of the Brazilian Association of Vegetable Oils (ABIOVE), Marinho Faria, stated that a technical investigation conducted by his association revealed that its European colleagues have an advantage of at least $10.58 per ton in the production of edible oils thanks to support they receive from their governments. Faria pointed out that in view of advantages which European industries enjoy -- greater financial strength and greater bargaining power with purchasers -- Brazil will always have to export soybeans and its byproducts (oil and meal) at prices "slightly lower" than those of its competitors in the United States and Europe.

Speaking to the Association's congress, the president of the International Grain Millers Association (IASC), Arnold Mergell, warned that the threat of protectionism for the edible oil and lard industry is currently growing in Western Europe. According to him, the idea of imposing a tax of more than $60 per ton on those imported products is gaining ground. Mergell said: "Among governments the belief has taken root that the general principle of free trade cannot be applied to agricultural products to the same extent they are applied to industrial products because of their special characteristics."

EXPORTS TO U.S. UP 44 PERCENT IN JANUARY

PY051522 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 4 Apr 84 p 15

[Text] Statistics released yesterday by the Foreign Trade Department of the Bank of Brasil [CACEX] show that, despite growing protectionism, the U.S. market purchased the largest amount of Brazilian goods in January (30.38 percent of total exports against 22.91 percent in January 1983). In relative terms, Brazilian sales to the United States increased 44 percent in January 1984 compared to those of January 1983, from $359.4 million to $517.8 million.

These data led the CACEX experts to conclude that trade with the United States will be essential for the Brazilian target of reaching a surplus of 9.1 billion cruzeiros in the 1984 balance of trade. As opposed to what has happened with the U.S. market, there was a slump in Brazilian exports to nearly all the rest of the economic regions, including the EEC, which totaled less than 10.69 percent of total sales, and Latin America, which totaled less than 33 percent. Exports to Africa, however, have increased 77 percent, from $84.5 million to $149.6 million. This fact is due to increased sales to Zimbabwe, from $87,000 to $32.6 million; South Africa, from $8.1 million to $12.7 million; and Algeria, which soared from $2.2 million to $16.2 million.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON DEPARTURE OF 'TERRORISTS'

PY091337 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] The courts would have to request the extradition of the four terrorists who had sought asylum at the nunciature for 82 days. This statement was made by Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa, in response to a question. He explained that the military government cannot submit an extradition request against the four terrorists who left the country on Saturday, 7 April. He said that the courts would have to submit the request because they are the ones dealing with the murder of General Carol Urzua and his two bodyguards.

The interior minister added that no safe-conducts were granted to the four terrorists, but that Apostolic Nuncio Msgr Angelo Sodano was authorized to take them out of the country with an authorization signed by the interior minister. Jarpa said that the government could not grant the safe-conducts, but that it did want to comply with the pope's request.

MDP REPORTS ON INSUNZA 'KIDNAPPING,' EXPULSION

PY072040 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Leaders of opposition parties have stated that the kidnapping and expulsion of Jaime Insunza and Dr Leopoldo Ortega is part of a plan to intimidate dissident parties. The Popular Democratic Movement [MDP] granted a press conference at noon today during which its leader German Correa reported on the events.

[Begin Correa recording] MDP Secretary General Companero Jaime Insunza has been violently kidnapped by plainclothed policemen from his mother's house. [end recording]

He said that there is fear regarding Insunza's fate. He said:

[Begin Correa recording] Insunza was beaten, masked, and violently thrown into a white car and taken somewhere. [end recording]

Another leader of the opposition group said that, according to information they have, other detentions will reportedly take place tonight.

U.S. STATEMENT ON POLITICAL DIALOGUE CRITICIZED

PY060158 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 31 Mar 84 p A-3

[Editorial: "Statements by the Foreign Minister"]

[Text] Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has had to reject strongly a statement made by the U.S. Department of State, a statement that has been rightly regarded as an attempt to intervene in our domestic affairs. In a brief statement, the Department of State said: "We still encourage dialogue and we are hopeful that the Chilean Government and the democratic political parties will reach a peaceful agreement leading to the restoration of an elected civilian government in Chile."

In a widely publicized statement, Minister Del Valle said: "The Chilean Government has repeatedly proven that it is willing to engage in a dialogue. It is also approaching a fully democratic system in keeping with the terms of the Chilean Constitution approved in 1980. There is total agreement over these issues with the statement by the Department of State."

The minister then added: "Now, if the Department of State intends to have the deadlines and terms set forth in the Constitution changed, this will mean an intervention in our internal affairs, which we will by no means tolerate either from the United States or from any other country."

Minister Del Valle said that the interior minister held talks with representatives of centrist parties, so that one can say that there is a dialogue. He also pointed out that recognition of the current Constitution is an essential precondition for dialogue.

The United States, following a tradition that is deeply rooted in its foreign policy, has felt that it has to establish rules of behavior for Latin American countries. Although this attitude has been rejected -- and this was a predictable reaction -- Washington deems it appropriate to continue playing the role of master of the nations of the continent. Therefore, the foreign minister's remarks were necessary, because the defense of national sovereignty means nothing but the defense of the principle that the domestic affairs of independent nations must be handled without foreign intervention.

The principle of nonintervention is an essential foundation of modern international law. Both the OAS and UN Charters proclaim it as a major principle to be observed by all of their members. This principle seems to have seriously deteriorated recently, with the United States stepping up its intervention, particularly in Central America, to counter the open Cuban and Soviet intervention and to try to have Central American countries adopt democratic systems instead of Marxist dictatorships.

But the Chilean case is quite the opposite, because our country broke with democracy when the socialist government of Salvador Allende sought to impose a Marxist model. After 10 years of military government, the country is returning to democracy under the 1980 Constitution, which was approved by a referendum. The Constitution sets forth deadlines, some of them expiring toward the end of this decade; it also establishes stages that are being fulfilled. These deadlines can only be changed through another referendum, and a decision in this regard can only be made by the people.

Chile wants to maintain very good relations with the United States. This will be possible only if the two governments respect each other and if they avoid all actions that may involve interference in each other's domestic affairs.

SOCIALIST DEMOCRATIC FEDERATION CREATED

PY071259 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 6 Apr 84

[By Manuela Robles]

[Text] The Socialist Democratic Federation was created at noon today in a solemn ceremony held in a hall of the Tupahue Hotel in this capital. Enrique Silva Cimma and Carlos Gonzalez Marquez, representing the Radical Party [PR]; Luis Bossay and Mario Sharpe, representing the Social Democratic Party [PDS]; and Ramon Silva Ulloa, representing the People's Socialist Union [USOPO], stated that in keeping with the powers bestowed upon them they were creating a federation of parties that will be called the Socialist Democratic Federation. This federation will be made up of their respective parties and can be joined by other independent sectors which endorse democratic socialism.

The members of this federation have agreed to comply with the following basic rules:

First, the PR, the PSD, and USOPO will remain independent and will retain their respective internal organizations, their only limitation being that they cannot enter into agreements that would go against the program of the Federation.

Second, the Federation will be run by an executive committee made up of two representatives of each of its member parties. This committee will be charged with drafting the program of the Federation and its decisions will be valid only if approved unanimously.

Third, all political organizations can join the Federation as long as their request is approved by the executive committee. Independent sectors may also join the Federation and can elect their own executive board through which they will channel their relations with the executive committee of the Federation.

Fourth, the member parties of this federation will continue to be members of the Democratic Alliance [AD], and will commit themselves to helping each other in every respect to promote AD objectives.

Finally, the PR, the SPD, and USOPO have firmly stated that they will continue their struggle to restore democracy in our country and to become a real political option with a political program of a high socialist, democratic content.

SOCIALIST PARTY LAWYERS ATTACK AD PRESIDENT

PY071422 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Gabriel Valdes, president of the Christian Democratic Party and the so-called Democratic Alliance, has rejected the terms contained in a statement released by a group of lawyers belonging to the Chilean Socialist Party. The group, headed by (Julio Estuardo), criticized some statements which Valdes made to a morning paper, to the effect [words indistinct] and insisting in his refusal to reach any kind of understanding with the Communist Party.

The document released by the Socialist Party lawyers says that if that is the policy of his party, that is, the Christian Democrats, the socialists should review their membership in the Democratic Alliance, to which Valdes' party also belongs. In turn, Gabriel Valdes termed the accusations of the group as inexact and clearly unjust. He added: Neither my political position nor the platform of the Christian Democrats can justify that kind of interpretation.

CNI BARRACKS BOMBED; NO CASUALTIES REPORTED

PY082245 Paris AFP in Spanish 1546 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Santiago, 7 Apr (AFP) -- Police sources report that two attacks have been staged against barracks of the Chilean secret police in Santiago and Vina del Mar. No casualties were reported. A CNI [National Intelligence Center] building located in the eastern sector of the capital was machine-gunned from a taxi. According to the reports, the car circled the area for several minutes before the attack, which was staged a few hours after Jaime Insunza, the expelled secretary general of the People's Democratic Movement (MDP), was abducted by plainclothes agents. In the elegant resort of Vina del Mar, 140 km northwest of Santiago, a bomb went off in front of a CNI barracks located in the Agua Santa area. The blast caused some minor damage.

It will be recalled that 1 Carabinero died and 11 others were wounded in a dynamite attack staged against a Carabineros vehicle on 30 March.

MDP LEADER INSUNZA INTERVIEWED ON POLITICS

PY062235 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 1 Apr 84 pp D 4, D 5

[Undated interview with Jaime Insunza, secretary general of the Popular Democratic Movement, in Santiago]

[Excerpts] [Unidentified reporter] You have said that you demand democracy. The MDP [Popular Democratic Movement] is the pillar of the Communist Party, of Almeyda's Socialist Party, and of the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left], is it not?

[Insunza] Of course, the MDP is first of all a political alliance which includes Socialists, Communists, the MIR, and other sectors of socialism. But more than that, the MDP is the political organization of the Chilean left and therefore its influence is broader than the parties can have by themselves. That is, on representing a single alliance which has a program, a proposal, it channels them to broader sectors such as the Christian sectors, for instance.

[Reporter] Are you the representative of the Communist Party?

[Insunza] I am the secretary general of the MDP and I am temporarily replacing Dr Almeyda, who is under arrest.

[Reporter] But you are a Communist.

[Insunza] I am a militant Communist. That is well known. But I am mainly responsible as secretary general of the MDP.

[Reporter] Why did you decide to come into the open? Where are your "companeros?"

[Insunza] Well -- he states laughing -- my companeros are working with the various social sectors. They are everywhere, in the neighborhoods, in the unions, in the universities, among the businessmen, in the small and medium-size industries...trying to implement a policy of broad unity, of a stronger struggle, to reach the end of this situation and achieve a democratic regime.

[Reporter] You have said that the MDP represents the leftist forces. Why, if you struggle for the unity of the opposition, did you create the movement which emerged as an alternative to the Democratic Alliance [AD], instead of trying to participate in it through the bridge that the Socialists have been offering you? Perhaps the Communists did not want to risk losing their authority within the left?

[Insunza] We have proposed ourselves only as an alternative to dictatorship. We are not an alternative to the AD, but, on the contrary, we want to develop with it and with the democratic, social, and political sectors, a national democratic agreement, as we have defined it. Undoubtedly the MDP represents a special stand on national problems, although it has several points of agreement with the AD, especially in reference to the current situation and to the measures that must be adopted in the future. But we also have disagreements.

[Reporter] According to AD sources, these disagreements stem from the fact that you do not want democracy but another dictatorship.

[Insunza] We, the Chilean left, always, and the history of the country thus demonstrates, not only have advocated and have been the promoters of democracy, but the Chilean left has been the most consistent democratic force that has existed in the country. And we will always fight for the strengthening of the democratic process, seeking the most democratic society in the history of our country.

[Reporter] A Marxist-Leninist democracy?

[Insunza] I repeat: The most democratic system a society can have.

[Reporter] According to the parties that make up the MDP, your struggle is focused on establishing a Marxist-Leninist...

[Insunza] The MDP is an alliance where there are parties which adopt Marxism-Leninism as their ideology.

[Reporter] And in your particular case?

[Insunza] I am a Communist, and, consequently, a Marxist-Leninist. But I think that is not the main point, today or tomorrow. Because the most important thing is the problems of the country which require an urgent and immediate change for the return of democracy to Chile, and to achieve this all democratic forces must work together in an agreement that was reached at the headquarters.

[Reporter] Luis Corvalan had said that by now it is not necessary that all have the same idea of the future democratic regime. What is the democracy to which you aspire to return?

[Insunza] We want to put an end to the current regime.

[Reporter] With that you agree with the other opposition groups. But what about the future regime?

[Insunza] We agree with all opposition forces in the development of a provisional democratic government to face the main tasks to overcome the crisis and return democracy to Chile. We also advocate that the provisional democratic government must also adopt profound democratizing measures; to derogate the Constitution, to call for a constituent assembly, to dissolve the repressive apparatus, and to establish a military policy that will purge the Armed Forces. On this we agree, and, with the participation of the other democratic forces, we will achieve it.

[Reporter] Tactical alliances, as Lenin called them, to then establish the dictatorship of the proletariat?

[Insunza] We -- he answers without abandoning his program -- what we seek is a national agreement that will permit, first of all, overcoming the country's current problems, but we have also proposed that after the provisional government it is possible that the democratic process will be achieved by all political and social forces that are today fighting against the dictatorship.

[Reporter] Excuse me, but could a declared Marxist-Leninist like you be more specific in describing what kind of democracy you are talking about?

[Insunza] A democracy that is mainly and permanently based on the sovereign will of the people...

[Reporter] The democracy that is exercised in the Soviet Union perhaps?

[Insunza] Unmoved he adds -- the sovereign will of the people; that is, a democracy in which the people exercise their right to elect their permanent authorities from the different alternatives that are presented to them. A pluralist democracy from the ideological and political point of view.

[Reporter] What is the democratic alternative you propose?

[Insunza] A democracy in which the people's participation is not merely restricted to the periodical election of authorities, but one in which, through the different mechanisms of a permanent democratic power, the people can exercise in a direct manner an important quota of power and through which they will be able to resolve problems in conjunction with the different mechanisms that must exist in a democratic regime. Therefore, a democratic government must have mechanisms at the rank-and-file level, at the intermediary level, at the community level, at the legislative level, at the regional level, and jointly at the national level. As for the socioeconomic aspect, in the first place we must have a democracy that will hold responsible those who have stopped the national development process, and, in the second place, one that will be able to confront structural problems. In this regard, we have proposed the existence of four areas dealing with ownership [as published], the nationalization of banks so that they may be at the service of the country and not of small financial oligarchical groups, all this with the objective of upholding the rights of workers.

[Reporter] Does the democratic proposal you are promoting accept the succession of power?

[Insunza] I insist that the only ones who can decide in this regard are the people. However, if they choose to uphold this or other alternatives, we will respect their decision like we have done before, but we will undoubtedly continue to promote our proposal since we are convinced that this is the most democratic proposal there is.

[Reporter] Then the dictatorship of the proletariat is no more? How do you call it now, the people's democracy?

[Insunza] Whatever you wish. We call it the people's democracy because we understand that the people's democracy means that it is the people who are constantly participating in a democratic regime not only through the holding of elections but through the different social sectors that a democratic process encompasses.

[Reporter] In that kind of democracy, which Father Rafael Maroto [MIR spokesman] defined as being a democracy "of the people and by the people, not merely for the people," are you seeking a classless utopian society?

[Insunza] Yes, of course. We shall continue to uphold our socialist objective and we will struggle to achieve it. We believe that we are in the right in struggling for achieving a socialist government for the Chilean people.

[Reporter] By promoting a class struggle?

[Insunza] Whether people like it or not, the class struggle is a reality. Since classes have different interests, they behave in keeping with these interests. In keeping with this, we believe that the first thing that must be resolved is the dictatorship issue, then the defeat of the main enemies of the Chilean people, since they are the enemies of the majority of Chileans; that is, the financial oligarchists and the imperialists that have been in power for the past 10 years. This implies having a people's democratic government that is able to interpret the interests of the majority of the country, of vast sectors ranging from non-monopolistic capitalist sectors to the labor class.

[Reporter] But you have not defined the methods you are willing to use to achieve your objectives. You have only mentioned forms of struggle that you will resort to in keeping with the circumstances, and Almeyda has noted that peaceful means only make the regime stronger. Are you promoting violent means to achieve your objectives?

[Insunza] We do not uphold or promote any violent means. What we uphold is the development of the most ample, multifaceted, and united mass struggle that can be achieved. We uphold the right of a people to rebel against the regime that is oppressing them. This is a right that is recognized by the most diverse sectors.

[Reporter] What tools are you planning to use to exercise this right?

[Insunza] In the mass struggle that we are promoting, the means are not decided by the people, it is rather a counteraction resulting from the actions that are carried out to stop them from expressing their demands, from exercising their rights. If the response to a people who are shouting slogans is battles, you cannot expect them to continue tolerating this situation.

[Reporter] Does the fact that the MIR participates within the MDP imply that you accept terrorism as a means of struggle?

[Insunza] In the first place, let me note that the MIR is not a terrorist group, but a political group that promotes certain ways of action. At any rate, if you are interested you can ask them about it. In the second place, our relations with the MIR are limited to its membership within the MDP, which implies in a more ample sense that we agree on political and ideological ideas, and that we share principles and objectives.

[Reporter] But you have not answered my question. Do you accept terrorism as a means of struggle?

[Insunza] Let us define our positions: We categorically reject terrorism, but what is terrorism? It is just a phrase. It is the exercise of terror used with the objective of subjecting and dominating a sector of the people through means of terror. In this sense, undoubtedly the only terrorism we know of is that which is practiced by the regime.

[Reporter] From abroad, Corvalan has proposed "practical activities" such as attacks to achieve "the path leading to victory." Aren't these terrorist acts?

[Insunza] I am going to give you the same answer Msgr Contreras gave you: Not all violence is terrorism. The exercise of violence is not a matter that is decided by the people. The people do not seek it, unless they are forced to resort to it, because under certain circumstances violence is exercised against them. Therefore, we should not reject it from the moral and political point of view. As for the MDP, we uphold the right of a people to defend themselves. We do not only recognize it, we promote it. We do not uphold the repression of the people.

[Reporter] This is why at present there is full agreement with the MIR despite the useless struggles you waged within the Popular Unity [UP]?

[Insunza] We still have some disagreements, although minor ones, in comparison to the past. I believe there is one important thing in all this: We have all learned a lesson in these past 10 years after seeing what a fascist coup is like. Just as everybody has learned a lesson, so have we, the MIR, all of us...

[Reporter] Are you seeking the support of a people's church, as in Central America?

[Insunza] We work with all social sectors and this obviously includes Christians, and catholics. We particularly work with Christian rank-and-file sectors that do not only share our problems but also those interests we represent.

[Reporter] But you have been unable to work with all political sectors because the AD rejects any alliance with you, and particularly with Communists...

[Insunza] The important thing is the facts. In this regard, the union movement has been able to achieve an alliance which is above political ideals. This is an alliance that groups union organizations; the youths have also united themselves in the "Youth Commandos for Democracy"; the women have united in the "Women for Life" group, and so on...

[Reporter] What are your views on recent statements issued by AD spokesmen, such as Gabriel Valdes, who reasserted that the AD will not make any pacts with any alliances or with the MDP?

[Insunza] That is another problem. What we are developing now is a unity process that has strengthened itself. The national day of protest is a clear example of this.

[Reporter] But you are struggling against the AD's exclusion policy. What importance do you grant to this fact?

[Insunza] I believe it is important in the sense that it represents the position of representatives of a political alliance that we believe plays a decisive role in the Chilean democratic process and with which we shall continue to strive to achieve an agreement. We respect their statements, but we believe that the Chilean people want unity and they have shown this.

[Reporter] But let us be more specific. What do you agree on?

[Insunza] We agree on the need to end the regime, to establish a provisional democratic government, and to create a true democratic system...

[Reporter] Excuse me, but I do not think you agree on the establishment of a future democratic system.

[Insunza] Yes, we agree on carrying out a struggle to achieve an ample and true democracy in Chile.

[Reporter] Do you think that AD sectors believe that you are really aspiring to achieve a democratic system?

[Insunza] Yes, they do because we have always fulfilled our commitments.

[Reporter] Like you did during the UP? Would you again guarantee that you will respect democracy after this provisional government?

[Insunza] The people are the only ones to whom we are obliged to offer guarantees and our guarantee is that their decisions will be fully respected.

[Reporter] And once you achieve power you will never leave it, is that it?

[Insunza] With a smile he answers: Regarding situations of power, no one can decide except the people.

[Reporter] But you advocate that the people stay in power?

[Insunza] What we want for Chile is to achieve the most democratic regime possible, a democracy in which the overall rights of the people are upheld as much as possible.

CREATION OF NEW LABOR MOVEMENT APPROVED

PY091711 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0312 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] Santiago, 8 Apr (EFE) -- Today a meeting of more than 300 opposition leaders, presided over by 84-year-old Clotario Blest, approved the creation of the United Labor Union Movement [Movimiento Sindical de Unidad] with the purpose of merging it with the National Workers Command. The meeting, conducted by Manuel Jimenez, current vice president of the National Labor Union Coordinating Board, headed by Manuel Bustos, was attended by, among others, Emilio Torres, former president of the Copper Workers Confederation, and Manuel Dinamarca and Julio Valderrama, founders of the dissolved Sole Central Organization of Chilean Workers.

The opposition members rejected the division of Chilean workers into ideological groups and agreed to join the National Workers Command, although they aim to create a National Workers Center in the future. The new labor movement will inform the Command of its desire to become a member with the same representation in the leadership as the other member groups. At present, the Command is composed of the Confederation of Copper Workers, the National Union Coordinating Board, the Confederation of Private Employees, the Democratic Union of Workers, and the Sole Workers Front, and it is headed by copper worker leader Rodolfo Seguel.

According to labor union sources, the National Workers Command will make a decision regarding the new group this week, since it has summoned a national meeting of opposition workers for the 14th to discuss, among other issues, the holding of a national stoppage.

CHILEAN REFUGEES ARRIVE, GRANTED TEMPORARY ASYLUM

PA081926 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Text] Four Chilean refugees have arrived in the Ecuadoran capital, but the Ecuadoran authorities have prevented them from meeting with newsmen. The refugees, two men and two women, were the last to alight from an Ecuadoran state-owned airline flight from Buenos Aires, with a stopover in Santiago, Chile.

Some 20 Chileans at Mariscal Sucre Airport waved banners which read: Solidarity with the four struggling for democracy in Chile. The Chileans, apparently refugees, shouted: It will fall, it will fall, when their fellow citizens disembarked from the plane and were driven to the air base located 500 meters north of the international airport. There was no Ecuadoran official available at the airport to give an authoritative report on where the refugees will be taken. An Air Force colonel who was approached by newsmen at the air base entrance said: Yes, they are temporarily on this base. I think that they will have to stay here for several hours before being taken elsewhere. The Government Ministry will submit an appropriate report, the colonel added.

The Chileans had taken asylum in the Apostolic Nunciature in Santiago, Chile, on 16 January when they entered saying they feared for their lives. The government of Augusto Pinochet tried to obtain their release from the nunciature to arraign them on the charge of participating in the killing of retired General Carol Urzua last September.

The Ecuadoran Government agreed to grant them asylum in the country for strictly humanitarian proposes for a 60-day period, on the condition that within this period the UN High Commissioner for Refugees relocate them to another country that will admit them permanently, an Ecuadoran Foreign Ministry communique stated.

It was officially added that Pamela del Carmen Cordero and Jose Hector Aguilera have been admitted to Belgium and will leave for that country possibly tomorrow. It was also learned that the other two, Elba Duarte and Jaime Jovanovic, were left under the protection of the UNHCR in Quito until they leave the country.

BRIEFS

IMPROVED REFINANCING TERMS -- Ecuador has obtained lower interest and commission rates for refinancing its 1984 foreign debt. The banks involved agreed to refinance the entire foreign debt in contrast to 1983, when only 90 percent of the debt was refinanced. Ecuador will have 9 years to pay its debt at 1.3 percent over the London Interbank Offering Rate, with a 4-year grace period. [Summary] [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 28 Mar 84 PA]

PRIME MINISTER SCHWALB DENIES CABINET RESHUFFLE

PY091400 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Fernando Schwalb Lopez Aldana, president of the Council of Ministers, has denied the possibility of a cabinet reshuffle.

Schwalb made this statement after accompanying President Fernando Belaunde and other embers of the cabinet to see Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN secretary general, off to New York.

Resigns Over Economic Policy

PY100301 Paris AFP in Spanish 0140 GMT 10 Apr 84

[Text] Lima, 9 Apr (AFP) -- Fernando Schwalb, prime minister and foreign minister of Peru, today resigned from these posts because President Fernando Belaunde has decided to introduce changes in the economic policy, according to Schwalb's letter of resignation which was disclosed here tonight.

UN SECRETARY GENERAL CRITICIZES REAGAN REMARKS

PY061550 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0139 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Lima, 5 Apr (EFE) -- UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said in Lima today that he "could not accept" the statements made by U.S. President Ronald Reagan that the United States will continue to "create obstacles" for Nicaragua as long as that country continues to "export revolution."

During a press conference Perez de Cuellar said that he had only learned about Reagan's remarks from the press, but that from his viewpoint as UN secretary general "both positions" -- the Nicaraguan and U.S. ones -- "are unacceptable, because they interfere with the internal affairs of UN member countries."

The secretary general added that no country "has the right to export revolution," admitting, however, that nations are free to "import them."

Perez de Cuellar reiterated his confidence in the efforts of the Contadora Group for reaching peace in Central America. He again urged the two superpowers "to stop talking to each other through the communications media but to start doing so around a negotiating table," in order to reduce nuclear weapons and eventually abolish them.

ATTORNEY GENERAL CONDEMNS DOCTORS STRIKE

PY061540 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Attorney General (Cesar Ilizalde Estenssoro) has said that the striking doctors, who have abandoned their sacred duty, jeopardizing the health and life of their patients, could get from 2 to 6 years in prison. The attorney general emphatically asserted that it is a crime to abandon sick people who run the risk of dying. Therefore, doctors who do so become criminals. He added that the Attorney General's office will fight this type of crime to the utmost.

Strike Enters 6th Day

PY091413 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Aware of the critical moment the Peruvian public health sector is enduring, a group of members of the Peruvian Medical Association today returned to work. Six days after a radical indefinite strike started, which so far has resulted in the death of 10 patients, a large percentage of physicians have returned to work at the emergency posts that had been abandoned in a highly inhumane attitude.

The strike, which is without precedent in the world, entered its 6th day with association members divided following an assembly where delegates harshly criticized the leadership of the Peruvian Medical Association, which is recognized as being of the APRISTA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance] tendency.

GOVERNMENT ATTEMPTS TO PREVENT TRANSPORT STRIKE

PY091405 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Excerpt] In view of an attempt to carry out a massive stoppage of the public transport service by a faction not legally recognized by the Federation of Peruvian Bus Drivers, headed by (Hernan Chan), the government has adopted all necessary measures to ensure normalcy on Monday, 9 April.

In this regard, Roberto Vallejos Diaz, president of ELATRO-Peru [expansion unknown], disclosed that the enterprise will place 450 vehicles at the service of the people.

At the same time, according to Felipe Villasanti Ugarte, president of the Federation of Peruvian Bus Drivers, 40 unions of the national transport sector will not join the attempt to stop transport service by a faction of the bus drivers. He stated that the stoppage has no support from the union and that it is merely due to personal reasons of the so-called leader (Hernan Chan Lafon).

TWENTY REPORTED KILLED IN MILITARY ACTION

PY082246 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0009 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Text] Lima, 7 Apr (EFE) -- Unofficial sources have reported that 20 people died during a military operation carried out by 100 Peruvian troops with helicopter support in southern Ayacucho Department.

The information, which has been neither confirmed nor denied by the political-military command of the Ayacucho emergency zone, was provided by relatives of the alleged victims, who reported the event to judicial branch officials in Ayacucho.

According to the reports, 11 persons, 7 of them women, were killed last Thursday in Sachabamba, Huamanga Province, and 9 others were killed in Moyopampa, Cangallo Province.

The military operation took place after a noncommissioned Army officer and a soldier were ambushed and killed last Thursday by members of the Shining Path terrorist group in Moyopampa, 97 km south of the capital of Ayacucho.

BRIEFS

PRC AMBASSADOR DIES -- The body of the PRC ambassador to Lima will be cremated and then transported to his country. (Tsu Wang) died at 69 after a long illness. [Excerpt] [Lima Cadena America Television in Spanish 0130 GMT 27 Mar 84 PY]

NAVY OFFICERS WANT 'PROMPT INSTITUTIONALIZATION'

PY091447 Paris AFP in Spanish 2252 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Montevideo, 6 Apr (AFP) -- The weekly JAQUE today reported that about 60 high-ranking officers of the Uruguayan Navy have reportedly submitted a memorandum to the Navy Command in which they question the so-called national reconstruction process which the military began 10 years ago.

According to the weekly, published by the traditional Colorado Party (liberal trend), the memorandum evaluates the postulates of the regime and concludes that the goals that have been achieved are unsatisfactory. According to JAQUE, the Navy officers said that the process is exhausted and they noted the need to achieve the prompt institutionalization of the country.

It was noted that the Navy disagreed with the Air Force and the Army during the February 1973 institutional crisis, which resulted in the participation of the military in the leadership of the government. According to the weekly, the memorandum questions the relation of the Navy with the other two branches of the Armed Forces and it notes that at a given time, the Navy should have withdrawn from the process.

Moreover, the memorandum criticizes [the Navy] for excessive subordination regarding political issues and the slowdown of the democratic opening process. The weekly also notes that the memorandum warns that any delay in the set timetable, which establishes that general elections will be held in November, will result in a situation that the Armed Forces will be unable to control.

MILITARY PLANS TO ARREST ALDUNATE DENIED

PY091508 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2208 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Montevideo, 6 Apr (TELAM) -- Political and Armed Forces sources have denied international news agency reports which stated that there is an alleged operation underway to arrest Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, the leader of the outlawed National Party, if his promise to return to the country is fulfilled. Rumors about this issue began to spread when a National Party spokesman made this statement upon his arrival in Buenos Aires, Argentina, during a technical stopover before his return to Montevideo. Those who spread the rumor reported that the Uruguayan Armed Forces were planning to bring Ferreira Aldunate before a military court on charges of allegedly helping subversive organizations, undermining Armed Forces morale, and carrying out other actions that may expose the country to reprisals.

After denying these rumors, National, or Blanco, Party authorities noted this afternoon that Ferreira Aldunate does not intend to return to Uruguay in secret, thus challenging the arrest order issued against him in 1976. Uruguayan political circles estimate that Ferreira Aldunate will hold a meeting in Buenos Aires on 28 April with the National Party Board to plan the strategy to be followed in the November elections and possibly set the date for his return.

BRIEFS

NEW COLORADO PARTY FACTION -- A new faction within the Colorado Party has been formed. This new faction, called Colorado and Batllista Reaffirmation [Reafirmacion Colorada y Batllista], is headed by convention representatives (Walter Santos), (Daniel Bareiro), and (Carlos Orlando). [Summary] [Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Apr 84 PY]

NORIEGA ON MILITARY ROLE IN CIVIC ACTION

PA062312 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpts] The domestic work carried out by the Defense Forces headed by General Manuel Antonio Noriega constitutes the military's contribution to the socioeconomic development of the most remote areas of Panama. This statement was made by the commander in chief of the armed institution at the end of a tour of the coastal towns of Colon Province.

Gen Noriega was greeted in the communities of (Nuevo Tonosi), in Portobelo District, which has more than a dozen communities and corregimientos, as well as in Chagres and Donoso Districts. Gen Noriega listened to the needs of the community leaders, which include roads, highways, additional educational facilities, more health care, the installation of rural water lines, and higher agricultural production. Gen Noriega promised the rapid solution of the Atlantic coast problems:

[Begin Noriega recording] We are within our functions, and we want to satisfy you as much as we can. We are looking for these remote areas, which are out of contact and far from the benefits of the capitals and the areas closest to the government. We are going to make sure that we do all we can here. We are going to join with the MOP [Public Works Ministry] and also with some private enterprises. We have a civic action budget, and we are going to carry out the most practical projects, those that will benefit the majorities. We cannot promise you that we will accomplish the smallest details, but we will work on the projects that will satisfy the majority. In this type of work we need the presence of the communities, the active presence, the real support of all of the communities to carry out the projects. [end recording]

After speaking in (Nuevo Tonosi), Gen Noriega addressed the community of Miguel de la Borda. He spoke of the Defense Forces' work in the communities.

[Begin Noriega recording] As a defense force, we are going to work with the community. We are going to support the community, knowing that we are not making empty promises or being demagogic, but that we are getting down to the real work, which is the main part of the communities' development. [end recording]

At the end of the Atlantic coast tour, RPC reporter Manuel Santamaria interviewed Gen Noriega.

[Begin recording] [Santamaria] The point that worries us, General, is the state of dependence, and perhaps the inverting of values, by which I mean that the central government and the centralized institutions are supposed to attend to these things, not the Defense Forces. How would you explain this?

[Noriega] The central government cannot handle everything because of its limited resources and its inability to cover remote areas. There are some things, such as international loans, that are not granted for the development of remote areas, but for suburban areas or for developing areas, where the loans can be recovered; these are long-term projects because they are an effort to develop the communities. But it is difficult for the central government to come to these areas.

[Santamaria] Could this be interpreted as a replacement of the actions that a government should carry out for a country's development?

[Noriega] Absolutely not, because here we are not competing with anyone. In other words, we could remain in our headquarters, but then who would come? It would be easier for me to be in a cool headquarters office. It would be easier for (Purcell), for Major Quezada; and the engineering officers would find it easier to be on exercise than to be in the community. However, within the armed forces development doctrine -- which is different from the armed forces of other countries, where the army and people are separate -- our formation indicates that as a defense force we need a community development plan. Therefore, we are strictly within the work doctrine of our forces. Furthermore, you know that I did not invent civic action, nor was it invented by any given commander. Civic action is an armed forces doctrine that is inclined toward the people's development. There cannot be a secure armed forces if the people are not developed, and especially here in Panama, where the men who are in the Defense Forces are the product of and part of that people.

[Santamaria] How could we interpret or compare the Panamanian people with the situation that our neighboring countries such as El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Honduras are facing?

[Noriega] We refer once more to geopolitical factors. In those countries the armed forces moved away from the people. In those countries the armed forces ignored civic action, the armed forces confined themselves to their headquarters, and this accounts for the guerrillas and the moral, intellectual, and economic underdevelopment of their peoples. Thank you. [end recording]

ARIAS COMMENTS ON DEBT, MILITARY, C. AMERICA

PA090005 Panama City QUIUBO GRAFICO in Spanish 7-14 Apr 84 pp 8, 9

[Report on an interview with Dr Arnulfo Arias Madrid, Authentic Panamenist Party president and presidential candidate of the National Democratic Alliance, by Lisette Carrasco, Edwin Wald, and Aurelio Jimenez in Boquete, Chiriqui Province; date not given]

[Excerpts] In his comfortable home in Boquete, Dr Arnulfo Arias talked to us about what we could consider the foundations of his government and also about the crisis that the Central American countries are facing.

One of the problems the future president of the Republic will have to face is the country's current economic crisis. Dr Arias told us that if he wins the election he will renegotiate the nation's debt with the international financial institutions and with private banks.

The political leader of Arco Iris [name of his estate in Boquete] said that "there will be no persecution," because the philosophy of Panamenist doctrine is to rescue what is ours, and therefore the word "persecute" is out of place.

When referring to the Republic of Panama's armed institution, Dr Arias always calls it "the police." "We will always need the military," he says, "but they will have to be honest and should not be involved in drug and arms trafficking to other countries." Arias said that Law 20, which created the Defense Forces, "should be amended." He has said this personally to General Noriega, Defense Forces commander in chief, one of the main promoters of Law 20.

He also mentioned the times he has been overthrown by "the police," adding that he does not believe there will be a military coup. Conditions are not the same. He said that "the police task is to protect all Panamanians and not to be a government within a government."

Arias is forceful when he talks about "the adventures that have had a high and still unknown cost to the nation," such as the foreign debt, which he said was squandered through "a lack of principle, corruption, and inefficiency in handling public funds," for which his government "will seek an accounting from those responsible." Arias explained that this is not a matter of revenge, but those responsible for embezzlement, as in the case of the Social Security Fund and COFINA [National Financing Corporation], cannot go unpunished.

Arias believes that the Central American crisis is a prelude to a crisis in the Panama Canal. Then you approve of the decision made by Gen Noriega to participate in the joint maneuvers in Central America? he was asked. He replied, smiling: "No...but I like the fact that the United States asked him to participate."

Regarding the Contadora Group, Dr Arias simply said that there is "too much talk."

Arias insisted that he will be president again for the fourth time on 11 October, when "we will find a deteriorated state requiring great efforts to put the country along the path of progress and welfare to which the Panamanian people have a right." He is saying today that he will return again to the Palace of Herons. Will he? In 4 weeks we will have the answer.

STUDENT GROUP DENOUNCES MILITARY INTERFERENCE

PA050420 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Apr 84 p 1-A

[By Jose Quintero de Leon]

[Excerpt] The leaders of the Federation of Panamanian Students, FEP, yesterday gave a press conference and denounced the interference of the Security Directorate of the Panamanian Defense Forces [PDF] aimed at dividing the student movement, since the FEP has refused to follow PDF guidelines during the current electoral activities.

This was disclosed by FEP President Jose Didimo Escobar at the newsmen's association building. He revealed that the intervention was carried out by "a task force comprised of Captain Del Rosario and Lieutenant Giroldi, and supported by FEP Organization Secretary Ortega, who organized several activities to divide the student movement."

Escobar has been leader of the Federation for 3 years; the organization was founded in 1943. It supported the "revolutionary process" created by the late General Omar Torrijos after his consolidation in power early in 1970. The organization also seemed to reach an understanding with the man who succeeded "Panama's strongman" after his death. Nevertheless, Escobar yesterday said that the gap between the military forces and the FEP has become increasingly wider, mainly because the PDF is now seriously trying to divide the organization.

BRIEFS

NEW NICARAGUAN, POLISH AMBASSADORS -- Nicaraguan Ambassador Guillermo Suarez Rivas and Polish Ambassador Andrzej Jedynak have presented their credentials to President Jorge Illueca. [Summary] [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 25 Mar 84 p C 13 PA]

NEW PUBLICATION -- The biweekly LA DENUNCIA was published for the first time yesterday in Colon. Its director is Luis Romero Villalobos. [Summary] [Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 31 Mar 84 p 4 A PA]

PANAMANIAN OFFICIALS DISCUSS CONTADORA MEETINGS

PA081425 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega has said that in view of the worsening situation in Central America, the Contadora Group will maintain its position if impartiality and equality, as befitting its role as mediator. Ortega said that if at any given time the countries involved are required to retreat one step for the sake of political credibility, they should do so. He said that the four Contadora Group foreign ministers will hold a 24-hour meeting tomorrow. He clarified, however, that it is not an emergency meeting.

Ortega said that the Contadora work commissions and technical group are working on schedule. It is hoped that on 29 April they will present their final report and recommendations to be evaluated by the Contadora Group foreign ministers together with their Central American colleagues on 30 April in Panama City.

Meanwhile, Jose Maria Cabrera, Panamanian deputy foreign minister, said here today that significant advances were made at the last meeting of the Contadora technical group with the work commissions. The economic, sociopolitical, and security commissions ended their meeting here last night, after presenting the draft for the negotiation of the Central American peace treaties. According to Cabrera, the region's situation is very complex and requires complex solutions. He said that the Central American representatives and the Contadora Group delegations maintain a reasonably positive dialogue. The Contadora Group commissions issued a bulletin reporting that the work done so far guarantees that the Contadora Group foreign ministers and the five Central American countries will have viable solutions for negotiated agreements to resolve the area's crisis.

The work commissions and the Contadora technical group will meet again from 23-29 April in Panama City in order to complete the document to be presented by the Contadora Group ministers on 30 April.

PANAMA'S ORTEGA ON U.S., CUBAN ROLE IN CONTADORA

PA091618 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 0017 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Press conference held by Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega at end of Contadora Group foreign ministers' meeting in Panama City on 8 April; all questioners unidentified -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Ortega] The time has come for the countries of the region and those with ties in this region to show specific support for Contadora.

[Reporter] To what countries do you refer when you say countries with ties in the region?

[Ortega] Particularly the United States and Cuba. They have to show by their deeds that they are supporting the Contadora efforts. From our viewpoint, Contadora is the option with the lowest political and social costs, and it is the option that can seek a reasonable balance and equilibrium in the area.

[Reporter] President Illueca said at noon that the Contadora Group will carry out new diplomatic efforts. Can you tell us what some of these will be?

[Ortega] Contadora is interested in having the commissions end their work and present a report by 30 April. This is important for us so that we can prepare the draft of the final treaty. To achieve this objective, we will begin tomorrow to establish direct contacts with our counterparts in Central America, the five Central American countries, so that they can issue instructions to their personnel so that this work will be completed by 30 April. Contadora will also have to undertake diplomatic efforts at the level of international organizations. After 30 April we are scheduled to meet with the UN secretary general so that he can inform the international community about all the Contadora efforts and prepare the way for real and effective political support for negotiating a peace treaty in the area.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] have really expressed support for Contadora. To what specific measures by those countries is Contadora referring?

[Ortega] First of all, that there be an end to the obvious and growing military presence of the United States and Cuba, and that these two countries contribute so that the Central American countries will promise to support the proposals of Contadora, which is acting as a mediator and which does not have a solution without the will of those countries. We think that the United States and Cuba can contribute so that the countries of the area will take a more definite stand in support of a negotiated, political resolution in the Central American area.

[Reporter] Does this mean that both countries would at some time sit at the negotiating table?

[Ortega] Contadora does not rule out the possibility of direct contacts with the United States and Cuba in the next few weeks. But this will be determined by the presentation of the reports on 30 April.

COSTA RICA

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON HONDURAN EVENTS

PA060559 Paris AFP in Spanish 0034 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] San Jose, 5 Apr (AFP) -- Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez believes that General Gustavo Alvarez' resignation as chief of the Armed Forces has decreased tension between Honduras and Nicaragua. Gutierrez said that in his opinion various positive as well as negative events that have taken place have influenced the intricate Central American scene. Among others, he pointed to the change in the membership of the Honduran military high command.

To Gutierrez, Alvarez' departure was "a positive step," as were the Salvadoran elections, toward an improvement of the area's difficult situation. Gutierrez recalled that Alvarez' position toward Nicaragua "was too radical," and that there was a risk that he would provoke a war between Honduras and that country at any moment. Commenting on this, he said: "I feel obliged to show my support for the supremacy of civilian power over military power."

Among events having a "negative" effect on the Central American situation, the foreign minister mentioned the intensification of fighting in Nicaragua and the fact that that country took its case to the UN Security Council. To explain his viewpoint, Gutierrez said that this "diminishes the role of Contadora" -- a group made up of Venezuela, Colombia, Panama, and Mexico -- which is the main force seeking to bring about negotiations that will bring peace to the region.

Commenting on the deterioration of Costa Rican-Nicaraguan relations in the wake of several incidents along their common border, the foreign minister said that as soon as Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, replies to a letter sent by President Luis Alberto Monge, relations between the two countries will be discussed again. Gutierrez added: In his letter, the president requested a redefinition of the Nicaraguan foreign policy toward Costa Rica -- a redefinition that would establish the bases for a new discussion. The minister added: "We do not know whether Nicaragua sees us as an aggressor, as a country that could help toward the achievement of peace in the area, or as a country that has been a victim of aggression."

Inreply to an AFP question on whether that redefinition could mean a change in government policy toward the Nicaraguan opposition organization Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), Gutierrez said: Costa Rica "has a very clear policy" with regard to any anti-Sandinist organization here. ARDE, which is struggling in southern Nicaragua against that country's government, has its central propaganda office in San Jose. Nicaragua has insistently said that ARDE operates from Costa Rican territory -- a charge that Costa Rica has denied. Costa Rica, the minister added, in line with its policy of neutrality, allows political freedom in the country, but it is not a training center for attacks on Nicaragua. He pointed out that "the government has taken measures to prevent this from happening each time that it has uncovered operations of that kind."

Meanwhile, in a press conference this afternoon, the foreign minister confirmed that he will travel to Colombia tomorrow, Friday, to sign an agreement for the delimitation of territorial waters with that country. Gutierrez will meet in Bogota with President Belisario Betancur and Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda. Following his official visit to Colombia, he will travel to Miami on Sunday, to take part in the "Forum for Democracy and Liberty," which is organized by the Cuban-American Association. Foreign Minister Gutierrez today said that he will return to Costa Rica on Monday evening.

EXPLOSIVES, OTHER MATERIALS SEIZED IN SIQUIRRES

PA070546 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] The authorities have been surprised by the large amount of dynamite and other dangerous objects found in a house in Siquirres. We reported this morning that the Siquirres Rural Assistance Guard had searched a house in that canton in Limon and that they had found a large amount of dynamite and other objects used for sabotage. This information has now been confirmed.

A Rural Assistance Guard Patrol, equipped with a search warrant, last night searched the house and found three cases of dynamite, each containing 25 kg of the explosive. The guardsmen also confiscated a timer, some hoses, four tanks, each containing 35 gallons of diesel fuel, a manometer, two drills, two small filters, two large filters, three drill bits, a .22-caliber carbine, 100 fuses, 40 rounds of .22-caliber ammunition, a telescopic sight, 2 roles of dynamite fuse, and a complete acetylene kit.

Deputy Government Minister Enrique Chacon confirmed his subordinates' search of the house in Siquirres and the results of the operation. He said that in view of the seriousness of the case the Intelligence and Security Directorate was called in to continue the investigations. The deputy government minister also confirmed that a man named (Ulate) was arrested, who was believed to be involved in this case.

When the authorities searched (Ulate) they found a document that identifies him as a member of a leftist party in the country. (Ulate) was once the candidate for councillor of Alajuelita canton. It is believed that all the material confiscated from the house in Siquirres was stolen from RECOPE [Costa Rican Oil Refinery] and that it was going to be used in sabotage actions against state enterprises.

EL SALVADOR

D'AUBUISSON MAKES STATEMENT ON AGRICULTURE

PA092007 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1840 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Statement by Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, presidential candidate of the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, date and place not given -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Salvadorans, brothers: El Salvador, our beloved fatherland, has been saved. We have made clear our desire to live in peace and to work. With the great demonstration of 25 March we said that the best weapon of free men is the vote. Now we -- ARENA and the fish [Christian Democratic Party] -- are continuing with the electoral process.

At this beginning of the campaign for the second electoral round, in this message, we of ARENA are not going to ask you for your vote. ARENA and I, Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, want you men and women who work in the countryside; you big, medium, and small farmers; you businessmen of the agricultural sector, to plant our land, to go on with our agricultural work and development.

We must plant our corn, beans, and pumpkins so that while we consolidate the electoral process and achieve the victory that true Salvadorans want to achieve on 6 May we do not lose our struggle because of hunger, misery, and unemployment at the end of this year.

Gentlemen who manage our fatherland's financial and banking system: On behalf of the people who demand peace and work, we -- the political representatives of the people who are making this demand -- ask you to provide economic support to our farmers and peasants who will plant, work, and produce for the well-being of the fatherland.

There is no time to waste. The rains are coming. We must plant the land. To conclude this message we ask, for God's sake, for the sake of El Salvador and all true Salvadorans that those landowners who for any reason cannot work their land, that those who cannot work all the land that belongs to them, allow, this once, peasants of surrounding areas to plant your land free of charge so that we do not have unemployment and hunger.

When the future government of the Salvadoran people -- that is, all of us, brothers, all the nationalists -- win power, we are going to solve legally and efficiently the agrarian problem at all levels.

May God enlighten us and support the Salvadoran people.

The crucial moment for the future of the fatherland is here. It is now or never. May God save El Salvador because El Salvador will save America.

MILITARY OPERATIONS IN SAN MIGUEL, SAN SEBASTIAN

Fighting in San Miguel

PA091629 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0025 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] Operations north of San Miguel Department continue for the second consecutive week. Military reports from the 3d military zone maintain that in the past few hours contact was made with rebels who were moving north of Carolina. According to reports by local residents, the rebels suffered five dead and several wounded. The Armed Forces, particularly from the 3d military zone stationed at San Miguel, are continuing to establish a cordon in the northern area of the department, including San Gerardo, San Luis de la Reina, Sesori, Chapeltique, Ciudad Barrios, Carolina, and San Antonio del Mosco, in order to give these villages more security in the next few days. In addition, it has been reported that the Armed Forces have continued their operation on Guazapa Hill, inflicting 17 casualties on the rebels in a week. The report was issued by high military sources. On Sunday, the Air Force, artillery, and infantry continued participating in the operation. During the counterinsurgency operation being carried out, two rebel camps were destroyed in the past few hours north of San Salvador.

Results of San Sebastian Clash

PA100236 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Relay by Raul Beltran]

[Excerpts] [Beltran] This is a special report from YSKL's News Department directly from San Sebastian's Central Plaza. An Air Force helicopter is landing right now in San Sebastian's Central Plaza carrying a member of the Green Cross who, like us, has been able to get to this area now that this morning's fighting has ended. Could you tell us how many injured civilians have been officially reported?

[Unidentified Green Cross member] So far we have been able to rescue approximately 10.

[Beltran] Ten injured civilians?

[Green Cross member] Yes, in addition to other injured people who might be soldiers, but we do not know for sure. When we see injured people our only concern is to treat them or transfer them to a hospital if we don't have the proper medicine.

[Beltran] This has been a report by a member of the Salvadoran Green Cross. Members of the Air Force are in the process of evacuating several of the soldiers who were injured or killed in these clashes that started last night and ended not long ago, at approximately 0930. We now interview an officer who has just arrived in the San Sebastian area and who will tell us in detail about the clash that took place here.

[Unidentified officer] So far we have a report that an entire family, consisting of three people, was killed. We have not confirmed other casualties among the civilian population. The Civil Defense suffered four wounded, and the reinforcements from the military detachment suffered two dead and three wounded. That is the result of the attack.

FDR'S UNGO DISCUSSES HONDURAS, ELECTIONS

PA091340 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 3 Apr 84 p 5

[Text] Panama City, 2 Apr (ANN) -- Guillermo Ungo, president of the FDR, said here today that the dismissal of the Honduran Armed Forces officers most inclined to aggression against Nicaragua and the Salvadoran revolutionary fronts "does not allow for illusions." The Salvadoran leader said that it is still too soon to analyze what is occurring in Honduras, but he described as "favorable" the "resignation" of General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez as Armed Forces commander in chief, as well as the resignation of the other officers.

Ungo commented: "The most warmongering, aggressive officers, who are most inclined to aggression against Nicaragua and our fronts in El Salvador, have been pushed out," and added: "We still cannot express an opinion on where Honduran Government policy is headed." "We cannot harbor illusions that this represents a complete change in the power structure, but we can see that the most dangerous officers, those that were most dominant, have been replaced." Ungo said the situation may result from the unrest of certain military, social, and political sectors concerning Alvarez' markedly rightist stance.

The FDR leader analyzed this situation in the framework of the recent Salvadoran elections in which Christian Democrat candidate Jose Napoleon Duarte attained a majority. Duarte had been considered by Washington as useful to "legitimize" greater U.S. intervention in El Salvador.

Regarding the second round of the elections, on 6 May, in which Duarte and Roberto D'Aubuisson, leader of the ultrarightist Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, will confront each other, Ungo indicated that both candidates will arrive at the elections with their forces spent and that this "confirms the need for and the validity of the proposal made by the FMLN-FDR to establish a provisional government of broad participation."

Ungo said that none of the political forces participating in the electoral process represents the people's interests. The failure of the elections, which will repeat itself in the second round, will demonstrate that elections do not represent a solution to the Salvadoran conflict because "the real power of decision rests with Washington and the Armed Forces." "Although Duarte is the United States' best card for its political and military plan, any candidate who emerges the victor will enjoy U.S. support," Ungo stressed.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA IN U.S.; LOBOS ZAMORA ACTING HEAD OF STATE

PA100145 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0037 GMT 10 Apr 84

[Text] Guatemala, 9 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- General Rodolfo Lobos Zamora, acting head of state, denied in Guatemala City today -- during a press conference -- that political instability has increased in the country. General Lobos Zamora has been acting head of state since last Saturday, when President General Oscar Mejia Victores traveled to Miami for a private 3-day visit.

"General Mejia Victores' trip is completely normal. It was not reported before hand because it is strictly private and that was understood by the board of commanders, who bade him farewell at the airport last Saturday and will welcome him tomorrow," the acting head of state asserted. "General Mejia Victores fully trusts the board of commanders, and the trust is mutual, as proved by the very fact that he has gone abroad," General Rodolfo Lobos Zamora added.

The acting chief of state, who is also chief of the Army General Staff, denied that General Mejia is sick and that he had traveled to Miami for medical treatment, as rumored here today in diplomatic circles. "General Mejia made several trips to the interior of the country in past weeks to get first-hand knowledge of the people's problems, and this has somewhat exhausted him, but it is not true that he is sick," the general pointed out.

The acting head of state admitted that there has been a marked increase of guerrilla activities in Guatemala during these weeks. He said: "The rebels' goal is to delay the institutionalization which the Army wants to carry out, but their actions will not prevent the elections for National Constituent Assembly members next July."

General Mejia used his visit to Miami to hold unofficial meetings with several people attending a political meeting on Central America, organized by the Cuban-U.S. Foundation, according to information given today by government spokesman Ramon Celada Carrillo. The head of state was accompanied by his foreign minister, Fernando Andrade, who was one of the main speakers at the conference -- which also included the participation of the Guatemalan Chamber of Industries, Commerce and Agriculture.

General Mejia Victores' trip to the United States represents his second visit abroad since 8 August 1983, when he took over power. Last December the head of state -- also accompanied by the foreign minister -- visited Brazil and Argentina, where he attended Argentine President Alfonsin's inauguration ceremony.

FRENCH EMBASSY ASYLUM PROCEDURE QUESTIONED

PA062125 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 5 Apr 84 p 18

[Text] The Guatemalan Foreign Ministry has asked the French Embassy for details of Marco Antonio Santizo's receiving refuge at the embassy and the embassy's reasons for not telling the Guatemalan Government about the matter, Ramon Celada Carrillo, public relations secretary of the head of state's office, said yesterday. Santizo, who is a university professor, reportedly left the country last Saturday under the protection of the French flag. The Guatemalan Government said several times that "it had no official information regarding the embassy's having sheltered any refugees."

Discussing the situation, Celada said that it was unofficially learned that Santizo had left the country via regular means 4 days ago. Celada said: The French Embassy did not tell the Foreign Ministry, nor did it take any official measures regarding Santizo's asylum. Celada added: This was such special a case that it proved uncommon. The French Embassy did not even advise us that it had sheltered a refugee.

According to Celada, the Guatemalan Foreign Ministry was not denied any information when it asked, but for some reason the embassy forgot to advise Guatemalan authorities. Celada added that perhaps the embassy considered the case very special, and for this reason they helped Santizo leave the country.

The Guatemalan Foreign Ministry has asked the embassy for an explanation, Celada said, and added: I don't know whether the embassy has given the government the requested information regarding the refugee, who left the country some days ago under the protection of the French Embassy.

HONDURAS

WORKERS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST ALVAREZ MARTINEZ

PA081429 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Between 15,000 and 20,000 workers who yesterday demonstrated on the streets of Tegucigalpa condemned the infamous acts of the former chief of the Armed Forces, General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, and acclaimed his dismissal from the post. Reporter Guillermo Castellanos has the following recorded report:

[Begin recording] [Castellanos] From 20,000 to 25,000 workers yesterday marched on the streets of Tegucigalpa and massed in front of the Presidential Palace to hold a meeting. The first speaker, labor leader Napoleon Acevedo Granados, representing the United Workers Federation of Honduras, said:

[Acevedo Granados] The labor, educator, student, and professional organizations demand from the constitutional government of the Republic headed by Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova, and the new chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, General Walter Lopez Reyes:

1. The immediate release of (Rolando Vindel Gonzalez), president of the workers union of the national Electric Power Company, and of (Gustavo Morales Funes), former labor leader and deputy director of the National Lottery of Honduras.

2. The immediate delivery to their relatives the 103 persons missing during the present constitutional government from 1982 to this date.

3. An immediate investigation and punishment of the civilian and military elements involved directly or indirectly in any of these crimes.

[Castellanos] Neftali Garcia, secretary general of the Central Federation of Unions of Free Honduran Workers, FECESITLIH, condemned the labor leaders who have joined with the [word indistinct] against the interests of the nation's organized labor class. He said:

[Garcia] The government must revise the cabinet. Other officials of the administration whose work has been negative should be changed. [end recording]

NICARAGUA

U.S. TO BE CHARGED BEFORE INTERNATIONAL COURT

PA091340 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] Nicaragua will accuse the United States before the International Court of Justice in The Hague of mining Nicaraguan ports. The U.S. Government, meanwhile, in a communique yesterday issued by the State Department, stated that it would not recognize for the next 2 years the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice in The Hague regarding Central America.

The communique makes it clear that this decision is an effort to prevent Nicaragua from getting a favorable decision from the internationally recognized legal body if Nicaragua presents the aggression of which Washington has made it a victim. The International Court of Justice in The Hague is the main legal body in the United Nations.

Envoy to The Hague Comments

FL092336 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2107 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] Managua, 9 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Carlos Arguello, Nicaraguan Ambassador to the Netherlands and representatives to the International Court of Justice at The Hague, today said that the United States is obliged to recognize the International Court's jurisdiction over the accusations presented by Nicaragua. In a direct interview from The Hague for the official radio station "La Voz de Nicaragua," Arguello said that, in accusing the United States, Nicaragua is seeking to achieve two goals: A resolution containing measures to be taken immediately to force Washington to cease mining Nicaraguan ports, and a substantive declaration by the world's supreme court on the violation of international law by the United States.

The Nicaraguan ambassador said that, as proof of the U.S. Government's intervention in the mining operations, his government had presented the statements of high U.S. Government officials, including those of President Reagan himself, in which U.S. financing of the counterrevolutionaries and participation in the laying of the mines are accepted as fact. These acts constitute a flagrant violation of international law, Arguello said, adding that it is a question of the court's taking measures as soon as possible to achieve the cessation of aggression against Nicaragua, thus avoiding irreparable damage.

Regarding the substantive declaration, the Nicaraguan diplomat said that it may take a little longer but we will try to make the court's decision favorable to Nicaragua.

U.S. SENATE SAID TO HAVE 'OPENLY DECLARED WAR'

PA082222 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Apr 84

["Beyond the News Report" feature: "The United States Allocates Funds for the War Against Nicaragua," by Carlos Chamorro Coronel]

[Text] For unknown reasons, the U.S. Senate has approved the law authorizing a $21-million fund to combat Nicaragua's legitimate Government. In other words, the U.S. Senate has openly declared war on us. Worst of all, we don't even know why. Twenty-one million dollars to destroy schools, CDI's [Child Development Centers], dispensaries, health centers, and fuel depots and, what is most painful, to kill children, rape women, and so forth.

This unjust and criminal attitude on the part of the honorable U.S. Senate is truly inexplicable and totally incomprehensible. There are no words to describe such a deed. One can only think of the words used by Christ in the Gospel in which he speaks of evil in the world as a mystery of iniquity.

How is it possible for these egotistical senators, very comfortably ensconced in their leather seats, smoking their cigars and drinking whiskey, to approve so easily money to kill peasants in a distant country that has never harmed them and that, moreover, has normal relations with their government? Frankly, it is an enigma as undecipherable as the famous legend of the Sphinx.

One wonders: Why are those people waging war on us? How can those people, who moreover legally represent the U.S. people, oppose letting the Nicaraguans live in peace and have houses, health, education, food, shoes, and everything that makes life worthwhile and happy?

In the final analysis, they will have to live with their consciences, if they have any. They even boast of being good Christians, but they have forgotten the Golden Rule: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Fortunately, the law still has to be approved in the House of Representatives, where there is a Democratic majority that opposes Reagan's policy of state terrorism. Therefore, it is to be hoped that the representatives of the U.S. people will have, if not more humanitarian feelings, at least more common sense, in order to avoid more problems and suffering for the Nicaraguan people, who only want to live in peace with all the other peoples of the world, including those of the United States.

In any case, those gentlemen should understand one thing clearly: The Nicaraguan people do not want war, because they detest the great damage that it does to everyone. But if war is waged on us, we will resist any enemy to the death, with or without the approval of the honorable U.S. Senate, the declared enemy of Nicaragua and humanity.

U.S. SAID TO ADMIT RESPONSIBILITY FOR MINES

PA082339 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 8 Apr 84

["Beyond the News Report" feature: "The Reagan Administration Reveals Its Intervention in Nicaragua"]

[Excerpts] No one has any more doubts regarding the fact that the U.S. Government is waging an open and undeclared war against Nicaragua. This has even been admitted by U.S. Government officials. CIA [Central Intelligence Agency] Director William Casey has admitted the agency's direct responsibility for the mining of Nicaraguan ports.

But that's not all. The most absurd thing is that when France offered to help Nicaragua deactivate the mines placed in our ports, the United States reacted violently, accusing France of abetting the export of the revolution. This was a free, serious, and outrageous accusation against a country that only wants to contribute, humanely, to the search for peace in the region. We can't forget that the CIA's terrorist activities against Nicaragua are a direct and flagrant violation of the international right of free navigation and world trade. Therefore, we are faced with a deep crisis. The imperialists' threat is against the principles of sovereignty, self-determination, and the freedom of world commerce.

NUNEZ SAYS U.S. BEHIND ELECTION BOYCOTT CAMPAIGN

PA082226 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] The boycott of the elections being promoted by the rightist parties is linked with the state terrorism that the U.S. Government is practicing, Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez, president of the State Council, said last night. Commander Nunez said that the electoral process that will culminate in the 4 November elections will not be modified and that the campaigns calling for people to abstain from voting are being instigated by the United States in what can be considered another act of aggression against the Nicaraguan people.

The State Council president said that lifting the state of emergency would depend on the conditions that the Central Intelligence Agency continues to impose in the dirty war it is waging against our country. Nunez said that the Reagan administration has continued its counterrevolutionary activities, which are not only directed at military objectives, but also seek to destroy socially oriented civilian installations and to impede free international navigation.

The elections, Nunez said, will be carried out with whatever parties register, and no kind of blackmail will sway the Nicaraguans from their determination to hold the elections, which will be massive plebiscite to ratify the revolutionary plan.

D'ESCOTO TO MEET U.S., UN OFFICIALS DURING VISIT

PA091610 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] New York -- Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto has traveled to the United States to meet UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and U.S. Government officials. D'Escoto said that in the past days there have been some favorable signs, and he pointed out the tours made by UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar and Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid and their joint statements with the Presidents of Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama. D'Escoto said that the Contadora countries have to make up their minds to defend a climate appropriate to the achievement of solutions and to the attainment of the peace process. He also warned that the threat remains imminent, and that the Contadora countries should act decisively and cohesively.

DANIEL ORTEGA ANSWERS COSTA RICAN'S LETTER

PA091608 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] Nicaragua will never impose an interventionist foreign policy in the area or anywhere, Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra has said in responding to a letter from Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge. The Nicaraguan Government will never promote or encourage activities that go against the sovereignty of the peoples, Ortega said. This statement was made in response to a letter sent recently by President Monge to the Nicaraguan Government, in which he asked about Nicaraguan state policy regarding Costa Rica. Commander Ortega said that the Nicaraguan Government has never promoted or participated in any type of terrorist actions and that it never will, adding that Nicaragua will never practice the state terrorism that it is currently suffering.

Commander Ortega also said that the revolutionary government's political will is to strive for peace, which has been demonstrated in its search for peaceful, political, honorable, and just resolutions to the problems in the region. Ortega also reaffirmed the revolutionary government's willingness to return to the dialogue that had been carried out within the framework of the joint commission. The lengthy letter also reminded the Costa Rican president that from September 1983 until now counterrevolutionary groups operating from Costa Rican territory behind the Costa Rican Government's back have attacked Nicaragua.

As a result of these attacks, a number of persons have been injured and many have been killed, among them children, besides causing considerable damage. However, Commander Ortega said, in response to these incidents Nicaragua has been explicit in clearly identifying those responsible for the encouragement and financing of the contras, and it has also reiterated on several occasions that it has confidence in the neutrality policy proclaimed by the Costa Rican Government.

Further on Letter

PA090435 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0050 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Managua, 8 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Government "will never promote or encourage terrorist actions against other countries," Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, told Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge in a letter.

The Nicaraguan leader reiterated the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction's "most sincere" desire to resume the dialogue "our mixed commission has been holding." This binational commission, which has not met for several weeks because of border tensions, is considered by the Nicaraguan Government as the "adquate body to solve the current problems."

In Ortega's letter, a copy of which ACAN-EFE gained access to, he reiterated the Sandinist government's "concern" over "public statements" made in San Jose, Costa Rica, by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, that it has mined 50 km along the coast of the Lake of Nicaragua between the mouth of the Sapoa River and the village of Colon. Ortega told Monge that: "In view of these actions, Nicaragua has clearly identified those directly responsible for encouraging and financing these mercenary forces and has on many occasions reiterated its faith in the neutrality that your government has declared."

CANADA'S MACEACHEN ARRIVES FOR 3-DAY VISIT

PA091653 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] Canadian Deputy Prime Minister Allan J. MacEachen yesterday arrived at Sandino Airport to begin a 3-day visit to our country. The distinguished visitor, invited by the revolutionary government, was welcomed by acting Foreign Minister Dr Nora Astorga; Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Leon Talavera; Rodrigo Reyes, minister-secretary of the Government Junta; officials of the Canadian Embassy in Managua; and officials from the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry. Included in the Canadian officials' schedule are meetings with Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez, president of the State Council; political party leaders affiliated with the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board; Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Government Junta; as well as Managua Archbishop Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo.

Canada 'Concerned' Over Mining

PA091934 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Report by Freddy Lopez Quiros]

[Excerpt] Allan MacEachen, Canadian deputy prime minister and secretary of state for external affairs, met with Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco at 0900. The Nicaraguan official and the Canadian diplomat held an extensive discussion.

MacEachen said that Canada is concerned about the mining of ports because ships coming from abroad are being threatened. He said that the arrival of Canadian ships is being hindered. One of them was able to enter the Port of Corinto yesterday and it is unloading fertilizer. Two more ships with similar cargoes will be arriving in the next few weeks, Allan MacEachen said. He indicated that these shipments form part of the $13 million support that Canada is giving Nicaragua in credits to supply for our country's agricultural development.

The Canadian secretary of state met at 1100 with Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock Roman, agricultural development and agrarian reform minister. After the talks that they are holding right now, they will visit the (Chiltepe) dairy project.

HUMBERTO ORTEGA STRESSES STRONG TIES WITH DPRK

PA091611 Managua International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] Humberto Ortega, Nicaraguan defense minister and Sandinist leader, has condemned in Pyongyang the U.S. Government's aggressive and warmongering policy against the DPRK. The Sandinist leader also said during a mass event that Nicaragua backs the North Korean Government's proposals to achieve a just solution in regard to the country's reunification and its readiness to participate in tripartite talks with the United States and South Korea. Commander of the Revolution Ortega reasserted the brotherliness and solidarity of the Sandinist people's revolution toward the DPRK and expressed his conviction that they will both achieve victory against U.S. aggression.

TINOCO SAYS EARLY CONTADORA MEETING SOUGHT

PA070015 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 4 Apr 84 p 1 A

[By Jose Quintero de Leon]

[Text] "Contadora can no longer ignore that fact; it cannot remain aloof from the reality. On the contrary, it must seek ways to face it and avoid deviating from its objective," said Victor Tinoco, the deputy foreign minister of Nicaragua, visibly worried, referring to the virtual air and sea war unleashed against his country by counterrevolutionaries supported technically and economically by the U.S. Government.

Tinoco told LA PRENSA that in view of the increased aggression, Nicaragua had proposed that the Contadora experts group invite the foreign ministers of the Contadora Group member nations to analyze the need to discuss the problem at the presidential level and seek solutions.

In Nicaragua, Tinoco explained, there is now a new aggression in the form of air attacks, "Piranha launches," the mining of ports, and helicopter gunships -- all of it promoted, he insisted, by the U.S. intelligence agencies. He added with optimism, however, that the experts group had accepted the Nicaraguan proposal and would bring it up before the Contadora foreign ministers. "We believe it is a positive sign for the group to have brought the proposal up before the foreign ministers," he noted, "as it opens the possibility of a meeting before 30 April, because it is not advisable to wait too long in view of the aggressive escalation."

To the young Sandinist diplomat, the tendency of the Reagan administration continually to increase its forces in Honduras, and to locate them only 18 km from the Honduran-Nicaraguan border, a distance that could quickly be covered by troops of both sides, can be interpreted as a provocation.

Asked about the effectiveness of Contadora to handle such a delicate situation, Tinoco pointed out that his government feels optimistic that it can offer a resolution, and added that "we would be worried if it were not so, as it would mean permitting the situation in the area to deteriorate."

SERGIO RAMIREZ ON INTERVENTION, OPPOSITION

PA082346 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, summarized the history of Nicaragua, outraged by U.S. intervention, at a graduation ceremony for the 1984 academic year in Leon yesterday.

[Begin recording] Before discussing supervision of the elections, which has been a favorite topic with these gentlemen, it is good to understand that the plan to recover power by those who lost it and who see in the U.S.-directed counterrevolution their only chance to recover that power does not include the elections announced and guaranteed by the FSLN. It is the United States' will and purpose to forcefully depose the FSLN.

The National Guard is the real and powerful support for the liberal, conservative, and dominant classes. The FSLN removed that entity from its position of power. It is the National Guard that is supported by the United States with all its power. Again, the magic mechanism is at work. If the National Guard cannot solve the problem of recovering power, what happened in the past will repeat itself: Yankee Marines, vessels, cannons, and planes, which in the past were the ultimate alternative, will again play a similar role in supporting and stabilizing the guard. Intervention is their sole, last hope, because it represents the possibility of carrying out the political and economic plan defeated by the revolution. [end recording]

BORGE MEETS WITH UN OFFICIALS ON REFUGEES

PA082152 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Tomas Borge, interior minister and commander of the revolution today met with members of the United Nation's Office of High Commissioner for Refugees. The situation of refugees who, for various reasons, are in other countries of the area was discussed during the meeting.

Commander Borge offered every possible cooperation to contribute to the return of Nicaraguans who may want to dedicate themselves to the country's reconstruction. He also said that Nicaragua hopes that the Office of the UNHCR will cooperate in Honduras so that Miskitos in that country are treated properly.

The visitors said they were happy to be in Nicaragua because this country has demonstrated its support for the principles of support for refugees.

MAP LEADER TELLEZ ARRESTED IN SWITZERLAND

PA081324 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Isidro Tellez, leader of the People's Action Movement [MAP[of Nicaragua, was arrested in Switzerland while touring Europe. His party has denounced this action, calling it anti-communist harassment in a country with a democratic tradition.

Progressive European organizations have also denounced and protested this arrest. Isidro Tellez was on a tour through Europe to make known the military aggressions that Nicaragua is enduring and to secure solidarity.

FIDEL CASTRO COMMENTS ON FRENCH TELEVISION CITED

PA061729 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1544 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Cuban President Fidel Castro Ruiz today said in Paris that the Nicaraguan ports are being mined with highly sophisticated weapons through the direct utilization of specialized CIA ships and equipment.

In an interview for Channel 1 of French television, reproduced by INTERPRESS SERVICE and AFP, Commander Fidel Castro Ruiz said that the counterrevolutionary bands are the screen for a major U.S. Government plan to destabilize the Nicaraguan Government.

The mining of ports is inconceivable in times of peace and adds up to the escalation of attacks by the Reagan administration to destroy Nicaraguan economic resources, particularly agriculture, which has virtually resulted in a blockade of the country, Commander Fidel Castro added. Castro urged the international community to react in face of U.S. policy in Central America, particularly by encouraging the desire for a peaceful solution to the crisis in the region, as expressed by the Nicaraguan Government and the Salvadoran revolutionary movement.

Nicaragua is being attacked from Honduras on the northern border and from Costa Rica in the south by the bands armed, financed, and organized by the United States, Castro asserted. I know the Nicaraguan people very well, I know of their traditional fighting spirit and their strong nationalistic feeling, and I'm sure that they will defeat the aggressor in the long run, Fidel Castro pointed out.

He also noted that if Reagan is reelected, the Cuban and Central American peoples should expect no improvement in their relations with the United States. He added that relations between Havana and Washington were bad before the invasion of Grenada but that the criminal intervention and surprise attack -- following the Pearl Harbor and Nazi styles -- against this samll Caribbean island further aggravated them. He recalled that several Cubans died during the invasion of Grenada. There's always danger of a U.S. attack against Cuba, and therefore we have never and will never lower our guard, as all our people are determined to make the aggressor pay a high price, and if they dare attack us, they will lose here, as they did in Vietnam, Fidel Castro concluded.

GOVERNMENT REPORT DETAILS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

PA080202 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2314 GMT 7 Apr 84

[By Jesus Montesinos]

[Text] Managua, 7 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Nicaragua's economic situation in 1984 is "extremely difficult" and can only be resolved by "saving foreign exchange and holding back and even decreasing the people's living standard," according to official Sandinist government reports.

In the last few months the shortage of basic products and the people's complaints over the shortage have become generalized. Some basic products can be found on the black market without rationing cards but at greatly increased prices. The black market for dollars has increased the exchange rate from 90 cordobas per dollar in December 1983 to 150 cordobas per dollar in March 1984. The official exchange rate continues to be 10 cordobas, and the legal parallel rate is 28 cordobas per dollar.

During 1983, inflation raised the price of the basic consumer basket by 45 percent, despite subsidized prices, according to official reports that are not for publication. It is estimated that in 1984 this will increase an additional 13 percent because consumer prices have to be increased.

Also in 1984, estimated imports ($940 million) will be double the amount of exports ($461 million), with "foreign financing more difficult every day because we cannot pay off the loans obtained from friendly countries between 1980 and 1983 ($2 billion)," according to the official reports.

In a series of confidential official reports that ACAN-EFE has obtained, the economic council of the Nicaraguan Government Junta and the National Supply Committee [CNA] recently brought to the attention of the Sandinist Front's leadership the grave situation caused by "inflation and the deterioration of the living standard in Nicaragua. In one section, entitled "Speculation and Disruption of the Economic Policy," the official reports state that "speculation in basic consumer products increases daily and the existing supply system cannot control it."

According to the documents from the economic council and CNA, the lack of foreign resources is being covered by printing money, "which causes a gradual loss of state control over the Nicaraguan economy." The official reports blame the present situation on "production problems" and "foreign aggression" that oblige the country to maintain a permanent state of emergency in defense.

Such reports are not normally made public in Nicaragua. Instead, reports of positive economic growth during 1983 have been released.

Official sources concede that 25 percent of the government's budget goes for defense. This year's budget is an estimated 20 billion cordobas ($2 billion at the official exchange rate). In 1984 "the foreign aggression" has forced Nicaragua to increase its defense budget and further aggravate the economic situation. Sandinist sources believe that the worsening of the economic situation during 1984 as a result of the war "will permit the counterrevolution to use these difficulties for its ideological platform" in the election campaign.

Curiously, the Communist Party of Nicaragua was the first political party to promise an end to shortages if it wins the elections.

The CNA has proposed that the government increase prices and taxes on sales, services, and imports of several basic products. The government is also planning to raise the price of gasoline.

'RESCUE GROUP' MEMBER RETURNS TO MEET OPPOSITION

PA080420 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2137 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Managua, 6 Apr (DPA) -- Alfredo Cesar, who was president of the Nicaraguan Central Bank and a member of the "Rescue Group" [Grupo Rescate], arrived in Managua this morning to hold talks with leaders of the civilian opposition, the church, and the private sector.

Upon his arrival at the Sandino Airport, Cesar said that his visit to Managua is to explain to the opposition sectors the dissolution of the "Rescue Group" that for more than 1 year was composed of former junta member Arturo Cruz and other Sandinist government officials.

Cesar said that in a meeting he held with Miguel Obando y Bravo, archbishop of Managua, they "analyzed the church's impressions of national events." He added that the church "is the principal moral and spiritual force of the country."

Cesar termed "an outrage" the censorship imposed on LA PRENSA, which was not published yesterday. He said that the news of the dissolution of the "Rescue Group" was not reported anywhere and that "as long as there is no freedom of expression in this country, there is no democracy."

The politician said he has no plans to return to live in Nicaragua, but he is prepared to help find "political resolutions to the conflict that we are experiencing." He added that he intends to support the organization of the opposition "with great pleasure."

Cesar did not comment on Nicaragua's military situation because he was in a hurry, but he did say that he will hold a news conference before leaving the country. He explained that this was "his first trip to Nicaragua after 2 years of self-exile." Cesar, who is a member of a family closely identified with Nicaragua's oligarchy, is an official of the IMF. During the struggle against the Somozist dictatorship he helped organize the unification of different sectors of what was then the opposition.

NEW ALLIANCE FORMS AFTER 'RESCUE GROUP' DISBANDS

PA090251 Panama City ACAN in Spanish ~~2108~~ GMT 8 Apr 84

[By Wilfredo Chacon S.]

[Text] San Jose, 8 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- A new anti-Sandinist group called the Nicaraguan Internal Front (FIN) [Frente Interno Nicaraguense] surfaced here today, less than 48 hours after another, the so-called "Rescue Group" [Grupo Rescate], was disbanded.

Those included in the formation of the FIN are the leaders of the Third Path Movement (M-3), the National Internal Resistance (RIN) [Resistencia Interna Nacional], the Nicaraguan Democratic Resistance (RIDEN), and the Nicaraguan Republican Union (URN) [Union Republicana Nicaraguense]. The new organization has adopted the slogan: "Unity is victory; death to communism, long live free Nicaragua."

The leaders of the FIN agreed during their first assembly to "deepen and accelerate the efforts for the establishment of a programmatic alliance" among the four organizations so united. With this in mind, RIDEN, M-3, RIN, and URN described their principal goal as "promoting the establishment of a democratic, republican system that respects alternation in power and obeys the will of the people, in whom sovereignty resides." The new organization regards free, secret, and periodic elections as the only path for the people to express their will. Socioeconomic justice, with respect for private enterprise, is another goal of the new group.

As a characteristic of its proposed activity, FIN announced that it will wage "a mature struggle against the ideological Marxist-Leninist system of the FSLN." It added that this activity "must have a military manifestation as a result of the evident decision of the FSLN not to stop the armed repression in Nicaragua, as well as its obstinate determination to promote a disastrous resolution of the problems of Central America."

FIN called for the unity of all organizations opposed to the Managua government as an urgent need, and it has therefore appointed a high-level commission that has 15 days to draft proposed joint statutes and programs. The leaders of the FIN said that the delegates of all the groups must participate in coordination and unity, "without sectarian intentions," with the interest of achieving a victory and subsequent peace.

The leadership of the FIN includes Commander Julio Zelaya Rojas (RIN), Captain Misael Brenes (RIN), Commander Alejandro Martinez Jaen (URN), engineer Edwin Duarte (URN), Dr Sergio Prado (M-3), Commander Eduardo Sanchez (M-3), Commander Rafael Mayorga (RIDEN), and Francis Mena Bonilla (RIDEN).

JOURNALISTS DISCUSS RESUMING SUSPENDED NEWSCASTS

PA071112 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpts] According to the journalists whose newscasts have been suspended for the last 2 years, they will carry out pluralistic journalism. With the announcement of the opening in view of the coming electoral process, many journalists whose newscasts were suspended on 15 March 1982 with the declaration of the state of emergency are preparing to resume their broadcasts. They will speak in this program on the type of journalism that they plan to carry out. Journalists and radio broadcasters whose newscasts have been suspended will speak about their plans to resume broadcasts. Jose Castillo Osejo, director of Radio Corporacion, has said that the station's newscasts will be broadcast only if they are permitted to operate without censorship.

Newsman Noel Delgado has said he is ready to resume his newscast. Before the revolution he directed the "10 O'Clock" and "Five in the News" newscasts and after the revolutionary victory, he directed "The Hour" newscast. Today, "The Awakening" [name of program] will air an interview with newsman Delgado.

[Begin recording] [Delgado] We believe that the journalism that we should practice in Nicaragua should be eminently critical and constructive. We should try to point out means of development to the revolutionary process without this meaning that we should sell out. We have to practice a journalism that is nonaligned.

[Unidentified reporter] Have you presented your request?

[Delgado] We presented one a long time ago when your program and other news media went on the air. We have yet to file a request at this time when a larger opening is going to be established, but we will do so as soon as possible. [end recording]

We will now hear Jose Castillo Osejo, director of Radio Corporacion. He will give his views on the forthcoming resumption of the broadcast of newscasts:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] What are Radio Corporacion's plans now that the newscasts will be broadcast again?

[Castillo Osejo] Well, this is the first news that I have. We had already requested this verbally at the media directorate. We had spoken with officer Sergio Torres on the possibility of resuming our newscasts, but he said that so far there had been no instructions in this regard. Our plans are clear and precise. If there is a total opening and freedom we will resume our newscasts. If we are controlled or under censorship we would rather not broadcast them.

[Reporter] If you broadcast them, how many newscasts do you plan to have?

[Castillo Osejo] We would have the same number of newscasts as in the past, five or six programs. [end recording]

Yadira Baltodano, director of the "Night Newspaper" newscast, is another journalist who is planning to resume her news work. The "Night Newspaper" will be broadcast over Radio Noticias from 2100 to 2200.

Agustin Fuentes, director of Radio Noticias, has announced that the "Reports" newscast that he has personally directed will be reappearing. Referring to the opening that has been announced with the approach of the electoral campaign this year, Fuentes said there will be more newscasts on Radio Noticias.

[Began recording] [Fuentes] As our name says, we are the news station. We will try to increase our news programming, which will unquestionably be needed so that the Nicaraguan people will be well informed on the electoral process. We have already made some plans that we will have to arrange in line with the situation after this opening. Since we don't know what this opening will really be like, we can't announce specific plans, but as I said in the beginning we plan to increase our news services as much as we can with our equipment. We plan to have more news programs. We currently have three important news programs. They are "The Awakening" from 0600 to 0700, "The Thought "from 0700 to 0800, and "Radio News" from 1330 to 1430. We have three 1 hour newscasts a day. We also have commentary programs such as the "Writers' Chat" at 1300, which is repeated from 1830 to 1900.

Our plans include the resumption of our "Reports" newscast that I directed for several years and that we have not been able to broadcast since the establishment of the state of emergency. There are other proposals for other news programs. This will naturally depend on their approval in accordance with the rules of the game that might be issued during this opening and in accordance with radio costs, which have been increasing as in other businesses in Nicaragua.

[Unidentified reporter] Have you already filed your request for the broadcast of the "Reports" newscast?

[Fuentes] Yes, we have presented that request, and we are waiting for the opening that is established. I think it would be aired in the current slot of a program called "Reports of Radio Noticias," which is a cultural and musical program. Therefore, it would be from 1230 to 1300, and it would be followed by the "Writers' Chat" program. I understand that some other companeros have plans to establish a newscast from 2100 to 2200. I understand that a request for that program has already been filed. These are some of the plans. We would also like to reestablish the service of broadcasting news every 15 minutes and using our mobile units, which have been practically paralyzed since the state of emergency went into effect. [end recording]

We will now listen to newsman Roger Leon Carranza, who is also planning to resume his news work. He has been working in the radio field for 26 years. He has worked on "The Extra," "The Truth," "The Morning Reporter," and "News Impact" newscasts, and he founded "The News Summary" program at Radio Corporacion. Here is what he has to say:

[Begin Leon Carranza recording] I would like once again to have the opportunity to continue my profession. I have been in journalism for 26 years. I have worked at Radio Mundial and Radio Corporacion. [end recording]

LA PRENSA NOT PUBLISHED DUE TO CENSORSHIP

PA060443 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0158 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Managua, 5 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- The oppostion newspaper LA PRENSA of Managua did not circulate today because the Interior Ministry's Directorate of Communications Media censored several news reports, including one about Arturo Cruz' statement breaking his links with the Recovery of the Original Nicaraguan Revolution group, according to the information released by sources at the newspaper.

This is the fifth time so far this year that the evening newspaper in Managua has not circulated due to censorship problems. Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, LA PRENSA's codirector, told ACAN-EFE that he believed the censored material "included nothing that violates our national security."

FDN'S CALERO DENIES U.S. ROLE IN MINING PORTS

PA091827 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1759 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] Miami, 9 Apr (EFE) -- Adolfo Calero, leader of the anti-Sandinist armed group "FDN" [Nicaraguan Democratic Force], has said that the mines his men have placed in the Sandinist ports are "in a war zone and do not interrupt free navigation."

Adolfo Calero, who is attending a seminar in Miami on the internationalization of the Central American conflict, told "EFE" that the mines had been placed by his men and not by the "CIA," thus denying reports published to that effect. "We are waging a civil war," Calero said, "and have warned the shipping companies that these mines have been placed. We are not interrupting international traffic or the freedom of the seas, because the mines were placed exclusively in the entrances to the ports."

ARDE WARNS AGAINST USING FRENCH MILITARY IN C.A.

PA070402 Paris AFP in Spanish 0235 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] San Jose, 6 Apr (AFP) -- The Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) today asked French President Francois Mitterrand not "to involve" his country's Armed Forces in the Central American conflict. ARDE, whose forces are headed by Eden Pastora, in this manner expressed disapproval of the announced offer by the French Government to the Sandinist authorities to remove the mines from Nicaraguan port waters, which have been turned into war targets by the rebel groups for the past few months.

"A civil war is actually underway in Nicaragua, and it would be unfortunate for the democrats of the world to see troops of republican France" taking part in this conflict, in support of those "fighting, with the support of the Soviet bloc, for the establishment of a totalitarian regime," the anti-Sandinist group said. ARDE pointed out that the Sandinist government receives sustained support from the socialist bloc, which "mainly includes shipments of war weapons, which arrive in Nicaraguan ports aboard merchant vessels," and that this "forces us to mine those ports."

Finally, the Pastora group noted that France could help promote a "peaceful resolution" to the Nicaraguan conflict, while its military intervention would only "increase the war," involving other powers, thus worsening the Central American situation.

ARDE REPORTS ROBELO, CASTILLO TOURING EUROPE

PA081612 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Communique released by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, in Sarapiqui on 5 April]

[Text] ARDE reports to the Nicaraguan peoples and to all the peoples of the world:

1. A political delegation made up of ARDE directorate member Alfonso Robelo and labor leader Donald Castillo Orozco is touring several European countries meeting with political and labor organizations and leaders explaining ARDE's official stance regarding the elections announced by the FSLN. The delegation is seeking their solidarity with our responsible and patriotic political position.

2. That this week our delegates met with members of the Spanish Cortes from government parties and other organizations, among them the Popular Alliance this is ok the Christian Democratis, and Liberals.

3. As a result of the meetings held with various sectors, we can say that our delegation was cordially and warmly welcomed. The representatives showed great interest in ARDE's just cause, which represents the legitimate aspirations of a people who are already dying to rescue their revolution and to achieve their true liberation.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!"

Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE

Sarapiqui, free territory of Nicaragua

5 April 1984

VOICE OF SANDINO ANNOUNCES NEW ARDE RADIO

PA061425 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Nicaraguan brothers: Listen to the broadcasts of the Voice of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, mouthpiece of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE. The Voice of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro transmits on 555 Khz mediumwave next to Radio Corporacion, at 0630, 1230, and 1630.

BRIEFS

NEW AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR — Cavan Hogue, the Australian ambassador to Nicaragua, today presented his credentials to the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 3 Apr 84 PA]

CEMA OFFICIAL ON EXPANDING RELATIONS WITH L.A.

PA090148 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] CEMA is disposed toward expanding its relations with Latin America on the basis of just and equitable cooperation that will be of mutual benefit, Belane Kadar, vice president of that organization, has told PRENSA LATINA.

Belane Kadar said that she had proposed to the ECLA secretariat in Lima that a joint investigative project be carried out, especially in the fields of science and technology. Belane Kadar, who is attending the ECLA meeting, said that CEMA maintains cooperation with Latin American countries which includes the participation of socialist member countries of the council in the construction of 300 industrial projects in the area. After noting CEMA's exchanges with Argentina, Brazil, Nicaragua, and Peru, the CEMA vice president stressed that Cuba, as a member of CEMA and ECLA, is the only Latin American country engaged in multilateral and multifaceted cooperation in the region.

POLAND'S ORZECHOWSKI, DELEGATION ARRIVE

LD091659 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1430 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] At the invitation of the leadership of the Committees for the Defense of the Cuban Revolution and mass social organizations, a Polish delegation, including Marian Orzechowski, candidate member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and secretary general of the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth National Council, has arrived in Havana.

MEDIA OFFICIAL SEEKS MORE IN-DEPTH CRITIQUES

PA092212 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 31 Mar 84 p 17

[Text] Havana, Mar [dateline as published] -- One of the main concerns of Cuban media leaders and workers right now is increasing the level of press criticism and participation. This topic is of great interest to Antonio Perez. He is in charge of the Department of Revolutionary Orientation of the Communist Party of Cuba. The goal is being constantly and permanently promoted, because there is real interest in attaining new levels of criticism.

During an interview with EL DIA, Toni Perez admitted that he is not satisfied with the number of critiques that appear in the press. "We are seeking boldness and more depth in the critiques. We are working toward that in all media, especially in the newspapers. Despite our efforts, criticisms are still scarce," he said.

Perez recognizes the need to support journalists in their efforts to write profound and challenging criticisms about national events or situations. That is why the media are receiving special attention, not only information, but they are also receiving recommendations and guidance. "There is full freedom of expression in Cuba," Toni Perez says, adding that "the right to be informed is an unquestionable one that the people have earned and which they exercise every day, from the periodical murals of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution to the reading of national and provincial magazines and supplements that circulate throughout Cuba in printings of approximately 4 million copies.

The information is received in many diverse ways. For example, each block and street in the cities and towns has a mural containing calls to elections for delegates to the peoples's power and wide ranging report of community, Cuban, and world events.

The Cuban people are very well informed. The main national newspapers are GRANMA, JUVENTUD REBELDE, and TRABAJADORES. The editions are completely sold out every day. In addition, the people receive radio and television reports which are transmited in newscasts throughout the day, in different time slots, covering the entire week and encompassing all of Cuba. Regarding radio and television programming, a balance is always sought, giving priority to national affairs. There are efforts being made now to improve the quality and manner of presentation of the broadcasts in this field.

During the interview, Toni Perez stressed the very positive attitude of the Cuban media in their treatment of broadcast material, especially in view of the challenge of a growing disinformation and diversionist campaign by enemy propaganda. The party leader said that regardless of the type of anti-Cuban propaganda that is used at any given time, every effort is made to improve the media's quality, content, and manner of presentation, responding to the media's innate characteristics and to the important functions that Cuban media perform in society. "This is a permanent task that the party and media leaders and workers perform," he said.

GUARDSMEN URGED TO SURRENDER IN CAMEROON

PA092002 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] The Cameroonian Government has urged all Republican Guard mutineers who managed to escape the cordon around Yaounde, the capital, to surrender with their weapons to the authorities. It has reported that the coup attempt against President Paul Biya has been totally crushed. In a message over Yaounde Radio, [name indistinct], Cameroonian Armed Forces minister, said that the participants in the foiled coup attempt must report to the nearest police post with their weapons.

Press reports indicate that even though the last pockets of resistance were overpowered last night, the situation is still abnormal in Yaounde, where Republican Guard troops tried to seize power 2 days ago. The police and Army have set up roadblocks at strategic points in the city, and telephone communications have not been restored despite repeated appeals by Yaounde Radio to the telephone company's workers to report back to work. The official station has been broadcasting at regular intervals a message from President Paul Biya in which he reports the crushing of the coup attempt, whose toll in terms of human lives is still unknown.

GUATEMALAN ARMY THREATENS REFUGEES IN MEXICO

PA090352 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Apr 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Thousands of Guatemalans who have fled from the murders of civilians committed daily by the Army have been in refugee camps in southern Mexico for the past 3 years. Most of the 42,000 officially registered refugees in 89 of those camps, according to statistics compiled by the Catholic Church, have reported the bestiality and sadism practiced by the Guatemalan Army. Many of them arrived in Mexico with only the clothes on their backs, after having walked for several months along intricate jungle paths.

Human rights defense organizations maintain that there are actually three times that many refugees, since many Mestizo peasants were not settled in the camps and it is thus impossible to count them. These camps, which shelter as many as 14,000 people, are located near the city of (Morosin Pila) in the mountains, on a semi-arid plain 1.6 km high near the town of Las Margaritas and in the jungle.

All of the refugees realize they are alive thanks to the aid of the Mexican Government. Mexico has officially declared that it will not deport the refugees and will continue its humanitarian policy. In 1983 the UN High Commissioner for Refugees turned over to the Mexican commission aiding these people $3.5 million for food, and there are plans to allocate $6 million more for that purpose this year. To this must be added an important contribution by the Catholic Church which, in some camps like El Pacayalito or El Manzalito, is organizing truck gardens to produce the vegetables that are traditionally eaten in Guatemala.

The greatest danger to these refugees is the Guatemalan Army which threatens them, even inside Mexican territory, where it has carried out 68 incursions since 1980, leaving 16 dead and 20 missing. For this reason, Mexican authorities have transferred several refugee camps to the interior of the country and have protested to the Guatemalan Government the aggressive actions of its Army in open violation of international law and Mexico's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Mexico is not alone in voicing its condemnation of these actions; social and political organizations of dozens of countries have expressed repudiation of the refugee hunts carried out by the Guatemalan Army. However, Guatemalan authorities remain deaf to the clamor of the international community and continue to pursue their extermination and scorched earth policies.

If there are 42,000 Guatemalan refugees in Mexico today, the figure could be doubled or tripled in the coming months, because the massacres being carried out by the Army in rural Guatemala have become an official policy of the Guatemalan state. The most recent example was an attack staged by Kaibiles, elite Army troops, on the village of San Jose Belice in Pajapita municipality. On that occasion, government troops kidnapped some 30 peasants, including women and children, and took them away in trucks after setting fire to houses and causing terror among the village inhabitants. In the past few days the same thing occurred to residents of La Colonia, Morales, and (La Liberacion) in El Tumbador municipality, where the Army men kidnapped over 40 people.

These and similar actions have been used by Guatemalan regimes to pacify the country. However, despite the bestial repression that prevails in Guatemala, the people continue to struggle. The popular masses respond to institutionalized violence and terror with active, increasing, and combative organization. Proof of this is the successful activity of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, which daily steps up and consolidates armed struggle as the only path to the total independence of the Guatemalan people of our America.

U.S. VETOES UN RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY NICARAGUA

FL051420 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The United States has vetoed a resolution presented to the UN Security Council which condemned the placing of mines in Nicaraguan ports. Thirteen countries voted in favor of the resolution, which Nicaragua had introduced, and Great Britain abstained. The resolution strongly condemned the mining of Nicaragua's principal ports, the loss of lives, the damage, and the interference in freedom of navigation and trade which the mining has caused. The resolution called for all governments to abstain from carrying out, supporting, or helping with any type of military action against the nations in this region. And it called for the end of any act which hinders the Contadora Group peace efforts.

The U.S. stance contrasted with that of the majority of the participants in the Security Council debate held on whether or not to condemn the mining of ports and the aggression and pressure of which the Nicaraguan people are a target.

Nicaraguan Envoy on Vote

PA060326 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Javier Chamorro Mora, the Nicaraguan ambassador to the United Nations, has said that the United States is trying to appear as a champion of peace while it continues its covert war against Nicaragua. In a phone report to La Voz de Nicaragua, Chamorro Mora referred to the U.S. veto of the Nicaraguan resolution at the UN Security Council, on which 13 of its members voted favorably and the United Kingdom abstained. The diplomat added that despite all arguments against Nicaragua to confuse those present and the world about the real situation in Central America, the United States was defeated, finding itself isolated as the only member that voted against the Nicaraguan document.

REPORTAGE ON MINING OPERATION IN NICARAGUA

France Willing To Remove Mines

PA071106 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] France has expressed its willingness to cooperate with other friendly European nations in the removal of the mines placed in Nicaraguan port waters, French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson has told Colombian President Belisario Betancur.

In Cheysson's letter to Betancur, which was released by the press office of the Colombian presidency, the French minister asks Betancur whether he would be willing to raise a formal and public protest -- be it on his own or together with the chiefs of state of the other three member nations of the Contadora Group -- over the attacks on the right of free passage and common law that the blockade of a country like Nicaragua, which is not in an attitude of extreme belligerence, represents.

Cheysson says in his letter that a protest of that nature, accompanied by a call to the United Nations, Canada, the United States, Spain, Sweden, and the other countries that are part of the EEC, could propose that immediate measures be taken against concrete actions in an effort to restore free access to all Nicaraguan ports.

The letter states that France has no desire to intervene in Central America in a direct way, but that it is willing to support the initiatives in favor of peace and justice undertaken by the Latin American countries. It also points out that the de facto blockade of Nicaragua raises the issue of political ethics.

The mining of Nicaraguan port waters has been carried out by counterrevolutionary forces with the support of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

U.S. Opposes Offer

PA080000 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] The U.S. State Department has stated its concern over France's proposal to help the Nicaraguan revolutionary government deactivate the mines the CIA has placed in Nicaraguan ports. John Hughes, a State Department spokesman, has said that the deactivation of the mines in Nicaraguan ports would facilitate export of the Sandinist revolution. The White House, through its spokesman Larry Speakes, has also stated its displeasure at the French decision. We don't like it at all, Speakes said.

In a letter sent recently to Colombian President Belisario Betancur, French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson proposed French and European aid to clear the Nicaraguan ports.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL has reported that speedboats launched from a CIA-operated ship on the Central American Pacific are participating in the mining of Nicaraguan ports. The newspaper said that the boats used for the mining are independent of anti-Sandinist organizations, and their crews are composed of citizens from El Salvador and other Central American countries. The mines, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL explains, are acoustic, that is, sounds made by ships detonate them.

THE GUARDIAN has said that London's abstention in the UN Security Council vote on the mining of Nicaraguan ports is merely the sad behavior of a pusillanimous puppet, which is what the British Government is in its relations with the United States.

TIMES Alleges Reagan Approval

FL100238 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Apr 84

[Excerpt] President Ronald Reagan and National Security Adviser Robert MacFarlane personally approved in principle the mining of Nicaraguan ports, according to today's THE NEW YORK TIMES. This newspaper affirms that the U.S. Congress became worried about Reagan's escalation of hostilities in Central America when it learned that the CIA is directly involved in the mining of Nicaraguan ports. A Republican senator stated that the majority of the Senate was not completely informed of the CIA role in the mining when it approved additional funds last Tuesday for the anti-Sandinist bands.

The Nicaraguan Ministry of Foreign Affairs today announced that it had initiated legal proceedings against the United States at the International Court of Justice at The Hague for having organized and directed the invasion of Nicaragua and the mining of its ports.

Ortega Condemns Mining

PA090055 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Report by Nestor Nunez, correspondent of Radio Havana, from Managua -- live or recorded]

[Text] The Nicaraguan press dedicated their principal spaces this Saturday to reporting the statement by Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, who in the popular program "Face the People" once again unmasked the true intentions of Washington in the Central American region.

With the heading: We Will Accept Help From Wherever It May Come, EL NUEVO DIARIO summarized the commander's statement, recalling that while special U.S. Ambassador, Harry Shlaudeman, toured the zone, Nicaragua was facing counterrevolutionary forces of 800 men who were besieging its northern and southern borders and its ports were suffering from the mining carried out with the supervision of the expert Yankee military.

Termed by Daniel Ortega as the largest harassment operation launched against Nicaragua, the lastest U.S. aggressive actions are evidence that Ronald Reagan wants nothing but a military solution to the Central American crisis and that his diplomatic moves are only a cover-up for an irrational use of violence.

Also printed in bold headlines is Cuban President Fidel Castro's interview granted to French television, in which the Cuban leader blamed the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency for the mining of the Nicaraguan ports. We have evidence, Fidel Castro said, that those mines were placed by CIA teams and that they are even using boats of that spy organization to that end. The local papers also highlighted the statement by the Cuban leader that the mining is, in fact, a blockade against Nicaragua and at the same time a serious act of war in time of peace.

The words of Carlos Nunez, president of the Nicaraguan State Council who opened the seminar on elections and democracy being held since Friday in Managua, were also given broad coverage. Nunez said that the elections scheduled in this country for the end of this year will include all those parties wishing to participate. Nunez said that Ronald Reagan will not be able to interrupt the electoral process in Nicaragua, which is an integral part of the defense of the revolution.

Also, and in response to those who claim there is a lack of liberty in Nicaragua, the visit of engineer Alfredo Cesar Aguirre, who left the country 2 years ago and was a member of the recently dissolved Rescue [rescate] Group based in Costa Rica, was announced in this country. Aguirre came to his homeland with every guarantee to tell the local opposition why the Rescue Group ceased to exist. According to its platform, Rescue sought to recover the original project of the Sandinist revolution, but was dissolved because after 9 months of existence it had not made any progress. It was, as it is said here, a shapeless embryo that was dead long before it was born.

Nation Faces 'Greatest' Offensive

FL071630 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Apr 84

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction, has stated that his country is now facing the greatest military offensive ever launched by the United States, using thousands of counterrevolutionaries.

Ortega Saavedra made this statement while appearing on the "Face the People" television program. He stated that approximately 8,000 counterrevolutionaries had entered the Departments of Nueva Segovia and Jinotega and the Zelaya Norte area. He added that forces with identical intentions were operating in the southern Department of Rio San Juan after entering the country from Costa Rica.

The Sandinist leader stated that the counterrevolutionary offensive is accompanied by the mining of the Ports of El Bluff, Sandino, and Corinto. He said that this terrorist action is carried out by U.S. specialists operating from U.S. ships located off the Nicaraguan coast. He stated that Nicaragua is removing the mines with the means at its disposal, adding that certain nations have addressed the possibility of supplying minesweepers to counteract the acts of sabotage that aim at a maritime blockade of Nicaragua.

Borge: U.S. Waging Open War

PA071205 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] In an interview granted to the magazine PATRIA LIBRE, published in Managua, Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge has said that in the face of U.S. aggression Nicaraguans have to continue strengthening the revolution, preparing to face a war, and extending the olive branch. Borge stressed that there is nothing covert about the war that the United States is waging against Nicaragua and cited as the most recent evidence the mining of Nicaraguan ports, the attacks by piranha boats on coast guard cutters and port installations, and other aggressive actions.

Regarding the Genadier I military exercises, Borge said that these new maneuvers are nothing but a further escalation in support of the upcoming operations that the counterrevolution and imperialism are determined to carry out against the Sandinist revolution. Borge added that only a large-scale war or direct U.S. intervention would be able to prevent the elections slated for 4 November in Nicaragua. The Interior Minister then underlined that the Contadora Group is an option for peace, but cautioned that one cannot expect miracles because contradictions do exist, and some antagonistic ones at that. Borge said that the United States is applying pressure from all sides to break up the Contadora Group or convert it into an instrument of its sinister objectives.

Socialist International Cited

PA081903 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Text] Willy Brandt, president of Socialist International, and two other leaders of this organization, Spanish President Felipe Gonzalez and former Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, have voiced their serious concern over the mining of Nicaragua's ports and affirmed that actions of this nature are in violation of international agreements and unnecessarily aggravate the Central American conflict.

The three Socialist International leaders' meeting in Madrid reiterated their support for the Contadora Group and indirectly criticized the U.S. Government for rejecting the proposal of channeling economic aid so that this aid goes to private programs and not to state sectors.

At a news conference held at the conclusion of the meeting in the Spanish capital, Felip Gonzalez said it is necessary that Europe maintain its independence in international policy matters.

Mining Condemned

FL061628 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1232 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] About 400 merchant ships arrive yearly at the Port of Corinto, located on the Pacific coast of Nicaragua. These ships pay Nicaragua more than $20 million [yearly] in harbor and dock fees. Corinto handles almost 75 percent of Nicaraguan imports and exports. For this reason, with its criminal mining of Nicaraguan ports, the United States is attempting to blockade and strangle that nation.

Sandinist combatants and fishermen are making an extraordinary and heroic effort to clear the mines from their port waters. The mines were put in place by specialized CIA agents and can be deactivated only by sophisticated technical means that Nicaragua does not have. The example of patriotism of the Nicaraguans working to eliminate the mines at the risk of their lives has touched the emotions of the world, increasing solidarity and making more general the condemnation of imperialist forces for such vandalistic acts.

The press reports that French Minister of External Relations Claude Cheysson has stated his government's willingness to participate in the operation to remove the mines from Nicaraguan ports, as a humanitarian act by the French Government. Mexico has stated that it will continue to deliver crude to Nicaragua despite the mining of Nicaraguan ports.

UN Envoys Cited

PA050450 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Oleg Troyanovskiy, the Soviet permanent representative at the United Nations, has accused the United States of trying to force Nicaragua to abandon its independence, and described the mining of Nicaraguan ports as state terrorism.

Ricardo Luna, the alternate representative of Peru, expressed great concern over the serious actions to obstruct maritime trade with Nicaragua, and described such actions as a de facto blockade against that Central American country and as a violation of the right to free navigation.

NICARAGUA REACTS TO SHLAUDEMAN VISIT

Journalists 'Hound' Shlaudeman

PA060225 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Report from Managua by Nestor Nunez]

[Text] Harry Shlaudeman, roving U.S. ambassador for Central America, arrived this Wednesday in Managua to meet with Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, and Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto. Hounded by dozens of journalists who were waiting for him at Cesar Augusto Sandino International Airport in Managua, Shlaudeman briefly said he would offer no statement.

Saul Arana, chief of the North America Department at the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry and the person in charge of meeting the visitor, said the Sandinist government will hear Shlaudeman's proposals and arguments and then issue a statement. He said that once the special ambassador's trip to Nicaragua has concluded, a joint public declaration might be issued on Thursday.

Likewise, the local news media have extensively reported the UN Security Council members' rejection of the U.S. policy regarding the mining of the Nicaraguan ports. BARRICADA's headlines reported that a draft declaration against these terrorist tactics has started to circulate among the council members, although the Yankee veto is taken for granted.

It was also reported here that the mining of ports has seriously affected the nation's trade activities, if it is recalled that the nation's maritime terminals are used to move 1 million tons of cargo per year, which are carried by some 600 ships. An interruption or decrease in these activities represents major losses for the state economy and the Nicaraguan private companies, especially in those sectors that depend on imported raw materials.

In addition, EL NUEVO DIARIO reported France's proposal of working with other European countries to clear the U.S. mines placed in Nicaraguan ports. The proposal was issued by the French Foreign Ministry to Colombian President Belisario Betancur, one of the leaders who created the Contadora Group.

Finally, EL NUEVO DIARIO published the letter sent to the U.S. Congress by Nicaraguan ambassador to Washington, Antonio Jarquin, in which he says Nicaragua only wants peace in order to offer happiness and progress to a nation that suffered for many decades the bestiality of one of the bloodiest dictatorships on our continent.

U.S. Policy Said Unchanged

PA071200 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Harry Shlaudeman, the U.S. special envoy to Central America, has said that his visit to Nicaragua was relatively positive and that he expects to return to continue the talks. Shlaudeman and Langhorne Motley, assistant U.S. secretary of state for inter-American affairs, returned to Washington after conducting a tour of the five Central American nations which ended in Nicaragua.

In a communique issued in Managua at the end of the talks between Nicaraguan junta representatives and the U.S. special envoys, Nicaragua underlined that the U.S. policy of force toward Central America remains unchanged. It added that the Sandinist government expressed its willingness to normalize its relations with the United States on the condition that Washington put an end to its policy that violates international law and stops obstructing the peace efforts of the Contadora Group so as to allow a bilateral dialogue to take place.

Other conditions set forth by Nicaragua are that the United States stop its escalation of aggression in Central America, its military maneuvers in the area, and the covert war that it wages against Nicaragua through air and sea attacks and the mining of Nicaraguan ports.

NICARAGUA REPLIES TO LETTER FROM COSTA RICA

PA092012 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, has reiterated his country's sincere willingness to reestablish the dialogue with Costa Rica that was interrupted at the decision of the San Jose authorities. In reply to a letter from Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge, Ortega regretted the fact that bilateral relations have been tarnished because of the United States, which encourages and finances the mercenary forces that carry out aggressive actions against Nicaragua from Costa Rican territory.

The Sandinist government's policy, Daniel Ortega stressed, is one without ambiguities, and it respects the principles of the self-determination of countries. The letter indicated that from September 1982 to March 1984, counterrevolutionary forces have launched many attacks against Nicaragua from Costa Rica, without the knowledge of the San Jose Government. Those actions, Daniel Ortega added in his reply to Luis Alberto Monge, have not only meant a high cost in human lives and property damage for Nicaragua, but they have also sought to cast doubt on the Costa Rican Government's neutrality. In his letter, Ortega rejected the international campaign of distortions in which the Nicaraguan revolutionary government is said to have threatened to place mines in Central American ports. The Sandinist government, Daniel Ortega stressed, has not participated nor will it ever participate in any kind of terrorist actions, and it will never carry out the state terrorism that Washington is currently implementing against Nicaragua.

NICARAGUAN DEFENSE MINISTER VISITS DPRK

PA040510 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Text] Nicaraguan Defense Minister Humberto Ortega has arrived in Pyongyang, capital of the DPRK, for an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Korean Workers' Party and the government of that country. Humberto Ortega was greeted at the Pyongyang international airport by O Chin-u, minister of the DPRK Armed Forces.

SALVADORAN ARCHBISHOP CITED ON DEATH SQUADS

PA091847 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Excerpt] San Salvador Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas charged during his homily on Sunday that 26 people were murdered last week by the death squads, the security corps, and the Army. The clergyman voiced concern over the fact that the death squads have become stronger in the last few days.

SALVADORAN BATTALIONS DEPLOYED TO CIUDAD BARRIOS

PA060323 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The Salvadoran regime has urgently deployed four of its U.S.-trained special battalions toward the Department of San Miguel, where the rebels encircled for over 14 hours some 700 paratroopers near Ciudad Barrios. The rebel units inflicted at least 50 casualties on the encircled battalion. According to the information, the battalions dispatched by the Salvadoran Government are heading toward the northern region of San Miguel Department, near the Honduran border, where there has been a concentration of Honduran and North American troops for the past few weeks. The rebel station Radio Farabundo Marti reported that at the same time an unspecified number of Honduran troops were deployed toward the border region between the two countries, showing the tactical coordination between the puppet armies of Honduras and El Salvador.

MEXICAN PRESIDENT MAKES SHORT VISIT TO PANAMA

PA090211 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Apr 84

[Excerpt] After leaving Caracas, Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid went to Panama, the last leg of his tour which included Central America, Brazil, Colombia, and Argentina. In Panama City, the Mexican head of state was received by Panamanian President Jorge Illueca. Together they analyzed the Central American situation and noted that a violent solution to the regional crisis would imperil the peace and sovereignty of the entire continent. De la Madrid will leave for home today.

PRESIDENT, RETINUE LEAVE FOR U.S. VISIT

PA091557 Paris AFP in Spanish 1547 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] Santo Domingo, 9 Apr (AFP) -- Dominican President Salvador Jorge Blanco left Santo Domingo airport for Washington at 1127 local (1527 GMT) today, beginning a 6-day visit to the United States. The president is accompanied by his wife Asela Mera, Foreign Secretary Jose Augusto Vega Imbert, Armed Forces Secretary Ramiro Matos Gonzalez, and other secretaries and ranking government officials, as well as a large group of private Dominican businessmen.

PQD WANTS TO PARTICIPATE IN 1986 ELECTIONS

FL051950 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The Democratic Quisqueyan Party (PQD) has announced that on 11 April it will petition the National Electoral Council seeking permission, as do the majority of Dominican political parties, to participate in the 1986 elections. Former General Elias Wessin y Wessin must ask permission because his party lost its legal standing by receiving less than 5 percent of the votes in the last elections. A PQD official, (Salame Teverico), yesterday said: Our party wants to participate in the 1986 elections. The PQD's director of public relations said the party has set up a wide-ranging campaign for gaining support before the elections. (Salame Teverico) said that there was much enthusiasm in the PQD because at the last meetings large numbers of people turned out.

FIAP PROTESTS RADIO STATION CLOSURE TO PRESIDENT

FL061746 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 1 Apr 84 p 3

[Text] The Iberian-American Confederation of Journalists Associations [Federacion Iberoamericana de Asociaciones de Periodistas, [FIAP] has sent a telegram to President Salvador Jorge Blanco protesting the closure of radio station Radio Central. Rolando Osorio and Justo Chavez Espinoza, FIAP's secretary general and executive director, respectively, signed the telegram in which the Dominican Association of Journalists and Writers [Asociacion Dominicana de Periodistas y Escritores] described the closure of the radio station as an intolerable act which violates freedom of speech.

The FIAP directors also asked that the excessive bail set for journalist Rafael Santos, whose detention was described as arbitrary, be dismissed. FIAP is asking the Dominican Government to permit more freedom of expression and to avoid excessive use of controls over the media and reporters.

FIAP encompasses most Latin American journalism schools and associations as well as associations from all parts of the world where there is Spanish-language journalism.

The following is the text of the telegram sent to Jorge Blanco: FIAP, the Iberian-American Confederation of Journalists Association, protests the closing of Radio Central and demands that it be allowed to reopen. Closing the station is an intolerable measure which violates freedom of speech, a fundamental democratic norm. We demand that the excessive bail set for journalist Rafael Santos after his arbitrary detention be cancelled. We ask the Dominican Government to allow a wide and broader freedom of expression and to avoid excessive control over the media and reporters.

JAMAICA

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES INTERIM TAX PACKAGE

FL042343 Bridgetown CANA in English 1818 GMT 4 Apr 84

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, April 4 (CANA) -- Jamaicans were today, nearly two months before the presentation of the 1984/85 budget, faced with a series of tax increases which Prime Minister Edward Seaga says are aimed at raising an extra 138.5 million dollars (one Jca dollar; 30 cents U.S.) this fiscal year and reduce the fiscal deficit.

Seaga, in a paper presented to Parliament Tuesday night, also announced his intention to reduce the budgetary deficit, at 15.6 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during fiscal 1983/84 year that closed at the end of March, to a single digit over a single year.

The tax package includes two new measures, a 10 per cent surcharge on the profits of banks and trust companies, and a two per cent levy on the gross amounts payable under contracts for construction and tillage operations. Additionally, the education, travel, and hotel accomodation taxes as well as stamp duties on conveyance and settlements have been doubled.

The conumption duty on cigarettes, the transfer tax, and stamp duties on a wide range of imported raw materials have been increased. Seaga, who also holds the finance portfolio, said the measures were presented now because [passage indistinct].

The island's budget is being delayed for Seaga has to await approval from the board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) of an adjustment programme to be tied to a 180 million dollar (U.S.) stand-by credit facility Kingston is seeking from the fund. The IMF technicians and Jamaican officials have already agreed on the programme. The new tax measures, according to economists here, reflect a further unfolding of the package following last November's 43 per cent devaluation of the local dollar and further declines since then, and a 12 per cent ceiling on new credit to the private sector during 1984.

According to Seaga, the tax surcharge on banks and trust companies, payable in three installments in mid-June, mid-September, and mid-December, will yield an estimated 4 million dollars, while the construction levy is expected to bring 10 million dollars.

Seaga said that the construction levy was introduced because income tax compliance by persons in the field was extremely unsatisfactory, the tax contribution by the group unrealistically low, and the margins of profits shown in their accounts as a group was exceptionally low as well as "inconsistent with accepted margins."

The levy will be withheld at source and paid over to the collector of taxes within 14 days of the end of the month in which the gross payment to the contractor is made, the government said.

The education tax is expected to bring an extra 15 million dollars. The travel tax has moved from 10 to 20 dollars, and the tax on hotel rooms have moved in the "A" category during winter to 12 U.S. dollars, 10 U.S. dollars in the "B" category, and 4 dollars U.S. for the "C" category. In the summer the tax ranges between 4 and 8 U.S. dollars. This move is expected to raise 26 million dollars, Seaga said.

All the graded rates on stamp duties for conveyances and settlements on properties have been increased by 100 per cent, and should earn 2.5 million dollars.

From smokers the government is expected to raise an extra 26 million dollars by adding 56 Jamaican cents in consumption duty of each packet of 20 cigarettes, which at the present rate would move the retail price to 3.76 dollars per pack.

At present the transfer tax is five per cent of the amount of the consideration of the property or 25 per cent of the capital gain, whichever is less. The change will push it to 7.5 per cent or 37.5 per cent, respectively, and would bring the government 7.5 million dollars.

The stamp duty on raw material imports, excluding 11 categories, has been raised by six per cent with the aim of adding 37 million dollars in revenues.

The exempt categories are:

-- Food
-- Fuels
-- Imports by bauxite companies
-- Imports from Caricom (the Caribbean Community and Common Market)
-- Drugs classified as raw materials
-- Animal feeds
-- Fertilizers, crude and manufactured, insecticides, fungicides, and herbicides for use in agriculture
-- Raw materials for the production of drugs, animal feeds, fertilizers, insecticides, fungicides, and herbicides, infant foods, and for the use of export manufacturers
-- Raw materials for the production of text books
-- Imports by public sector agencies and institutions
-- Containers and related materials.

University of the West Indies (UWI) Economist Moar Davies said that it was more than likely that Seaga would bring more tax measures with his full budget, but expressed grave doubts about the ability of the government to reduce the fiscal deficit to a single digit within the fiscal year.

He estimated that even if the new budget was kept at last year's expenditure of about 2.9 billion dollars, to reduce the deficit to a single digit Seaga would have to raise an extra 300 million dollars in taxes. On that assumption he would have to bring a package to raise nearly 170 million dollars more in revenue. But Davies argued that inflation, the devaluation of the Jamaican dollar, and the impact on debt service would make it almost impossible for the government to hold the recurrent budget at last year's more than J2.3 billion dollars.

Davies said unless the government had been able to significantly renegotiate its U.S. 1.7 billion dollar foreign debt, it would require "massive staff cuts and the tightest budgetary management" to achieve the target. Additionally, he remarked, it was unlikely that tax projects could be met.

Said Davies: "I do not think the government has the ability to reduce expenditure and raise inflows to any level to meet the target, particularly given the past experiences of the economy."

PNP Attacks Tax Package

FL052131 Bridgetown CANA in English 1801 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, April 5 (CANA) -- Jamaica's opposition People's National Party (PNP) has said that a 138.5 million dollar (J) interim tax package announced by the government this week will have a deleterious effect on the economy and slow-down production. The measures call for increased stamp duty on raw materials imported for local production, a sharp hike in the consumption tax on cigarettes, and a doubling of the education, travel, hotel accommodation, and education taxes. A two per cent levy was also placed on construction contracts and a 10 per cent surcharge on the profits of banks and trust companies.

"This latest round of taxation will have the effect of slowing down production, seriously affecting the tourist industry which is already in decline, and further reduce the standard of living of the population," said the PNP's spokesman of finance, Seymour Mullings.

The Edward Seaga administration here was forced to introduce the measures as part of conditions for securing a U.S. 180 million dollar balance-of-payments support loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The IMF is demanding that Jamaica reduce a fiscal deficit of 15.6 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to single digits within a single year. The PNP expected cigarette consumption to decline, hotels, especially the smaller ones who cater to Jamaicans during the summer, to be adversely affected, and for the cost of living to rise because of the increase stamp duty on raw materials.

"When one takes the increased costs arising from the continued devaluation of the Jamaican dollar and couples them with the six per cent increase in stamp duty, one can readily see that the cost of living is bound to rocket even further," Mullings said. He argued that the same thing would apply to construction with the levy, "pushing the cost of houses out of the reach of all but the richest in the society."

Prospective home earners were recently hit by a one per cent hike in mortgage rates following the imposition of a credit squeeze by the government to limit the rise in new lendings to the private sector to 12 per cent this year.

In separate comments, the PNP leader, Michael Manley, called for the urgent raising of the J30 dollar a week minimum wage, which has not moved since 1979.

A national minimum wage advisory commission has been looking at the minimum wage, but no announcement has been made of its findings.

BURNHAM ACCUSES U.S. OF FINANCIAL SQUEEZE

FL100038 Bridgetown CANA in English 2200 GMT 9 Apr 84

[Text] Havana, April 9 (CANA-REUTER) -- Guyana President Forbes Burnham accused the United States of financially squeezing his country in a bid to force it to change its socialist principles, according to an interview published today.

The English-language Weekly Review of Cuba's official newspaper GRANMA quoted Burnham as saying Washington had vetoed several soft loans to Guyana from international agencies. "The new loan could cost us over the period something like 65 million dollars more than if we got it, as we applied for, on a soft window condition," [as received] he told the newspaper, without giving details of the actual credit.

Burnham, who has ruled the South American country since independence in 1966, said the United States used the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to pressure Guyana. "Our representative was told by one of the Americans that they're waiting to see whether we'll get the message," he was quoted as saying.

The Guyanan leader also accused the United States of trying to isolate his country from the rest of the region because of its political system and stance over such international issues as the Grenada invasion. "In sum, I would say that the present American establishment has a [word indistinct] view -- you're either for them or against them," he said, stressing that as a leader member of the Nonaligned Movement, Guyana believed in the right of every country to develop its own way of life.

Guyana disagreed with many of its Caribbean neighbours over last year's invasion of Grenada, though, Burnham said he expected Caricom, the regional trading bloc, would survive and that eventually "there'll be greater cooperation." But he admitted he was deeply saddened by the invasion which he said was "tragic," particularly as the request for American intervention last October amounted to "reintroducing imperialism and colonialism by invitation."

He added that he was heartened by Venezuela's recent statements that the territorial claim it has on part of Guyana could be settled peacefully and that United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar would be the best mediator.

OIL EXPLORATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH UK FIRM

FL061720 Bridgetown CANA in English 0942 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, April 6 (CANA) -- The Guyana Government and a British firm today signed an agreement to facilitate the start of a petroleum exploration project over the next 18 months. The agreement with Exploration Consultants Limited was signed by the Ministry of Energy and Mines on behalf of the government. It provides for both on-shore and off-shore exploration, an official release said.

The project, which will be conducted in two phases, is being financed by a two million dollar (U.S.) loan from the World Bank. Phase one includes devising a filing system in which future petroleum exploration data will be incorporated, and training for officials of the Energy and Mines Ministry.

MEXICO

LOCAL DIRECTOR OF SOVIET PRESS AGENCY CITED

PA070618 Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 31 Mar 84 p 3

[Article by Guadalupe Diaz]

[Text] Vladimir Dunayev, the new director of the NOVOSTI press agency in Mexico, has said: Mexico must also be regarded as a great power, in view of its progressive policy advocating peace, its large area, and its development. He noted that President Miguel de la Madrid's trip to Latin America "is the fulfillment of Simon Bolivar's idea to achieve unity in Latin America." Latin America has many possibilities: its peoples are progressive and revolutionary and have a desire to advance.

Vladimir Dunayev, who was formerly director of NOVOSTI in Chile and Peru, said that the only way to reach an understanding between the superpowers is through dialogue. "There is no other way." Commenting on the increased number of nuclear weapons stocked by the superpowers, the NOVOSTI director pointed out that a country must defend itself, and therefore it must have weapons -- but only to defend itself. "There is an ideological struggle, because two different systems exist. The important thing would be to reach a peaceful coexistence."

Meanwhile, Piotr Titov, a Soviet Embassy press attache, said that the USSR naval military detachment currently in Havana is on a visit, and that its presence has nothing to do with next Sunday's start of the Grenadier I maneuvers involving U.S. and Honduran troops near the Nicaraguan border.

VENEZUELA

MORALES: CONTADORA SEEKING 'DIRECT CONTACT'

PA100255 Paris AFP in Spanish 0145 GMT 10 Apr 84

[Text] Caracas, 9 Apr (AFP) -- The Contadora Group will hold direct contact with the Central American governments and with the United States and Cuba to find ways to deactivate the explosive situation in the area, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Isidro Morales Paul said here tonight. Morales Paul said that the purpose of these "direct contacts" is to appeal to the Central American governments to comply with the objectives set out in the document drafted by the Contadora Group (Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela) to find peace in the area.

"Contadora expects the support of the United States and Cuba for the principles established by the Contadora Group and for a series of standards of political consultations that are indispensable to decrease tension and achieve peace in the area," he said. "This is not easy," he conceded, but he emphasized that Washington and Havana have expressed their support of the Contadora Group's efforts and it is expected "that this will in fact occur by their adherance to the rules and standards proposed by the Contadora Group." It was reported that there are no plans to expand the Contadora Group, but it requires universal support for its pacification efforts. The foreign ministers of the Contadora Group countries, who met in Panama over the weekend, will meet again 29-30 April.